

**SPECIAL
SECTION:
NFL PLAYER
RATINGS**

**WHERE DO ALL THOSE DODGER PITCHERS COME FROM?
WHEN SHOULD A MANAGER BRING THE HOOK?**

SPORTS

**BEERS
WITH
GEORGE
FOREMAN**

AUGUST
1990
\$2.75

**JOE
MONTANA:**
STILL THE
BEST

**WILLIE
ANDERSON:**
A HIGH-
RANKING
RAM

**BOBBY
HUMPHREY:**
HOW GOOD
CAN HE BE?

**INSIDE
FOOTBALL**

**A
SHRINK'S
EYE
VIEW
OF THE
DENVER
BRONCOS**

**PLUS:
THE
COMPLETE
1990
NFL
SCHEDULE**

**WE RATE
THE BEST
NFL
PLAYERS
AT EACH
POSITION**

**RANKING THE
COLLEGE
CONFERENCES:
WHERE'S
THE BEST
FOOTBALL IN
THE COUNTRY
PLAYED?**



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FIRST PITCH

JOE MONTANA

stands right on top of the quarterback category in this month's SPORT ranking of the NFL players. And if that much holds to form, old Joe just may be alone as the torch-carrier of the established stars as we march deeper into the new decade.

The sports world is like that. It won't let you stay too comfortable for too long with those whom you're used to calling the best. Already this year, we've seen Magic Johnson and the Los Angeles Lakers severed thoroughly and early from championship contention. We've seen Larry Bird and the Boston Celtics cut loose just as thoroughly and even earlier. We've seen Wayne Gretzky not even nominated for the Hart Memorial Trophy (MVP) in the NHL (although he did lead the league in points).

We've seen Mike Tyson go down and stay there. We've seen Eric Dickerson give every indication that he doesn't care any more. We've seen Orel Hershisser's season destroyed and career threatened. We've seen Chris Evert retire—for real this time. We've seen Jack Nicklaus turn into a senior.

Those of us who've allowed a part of our lives to ride with the pitch and yaw of sports get a little queasy when these things start happening. If you can't depend on Joe Montana to define greatness, what do you go by?

But then we realize that the queasiness is natural at the start of a new voyage of discovery. Fresh stars emerge. The hierarchy of a sport changes. A Don Majkowski comes out of nowhere to pass his way into the top five NFL

IN WITH THE NEW

quarterbacks. And as SPORT research editor William Ladson elaborates in this issue, a Christian Okoye and a Barry Sanders can pop up and be the best, even while

we're still watching yesterday's names.

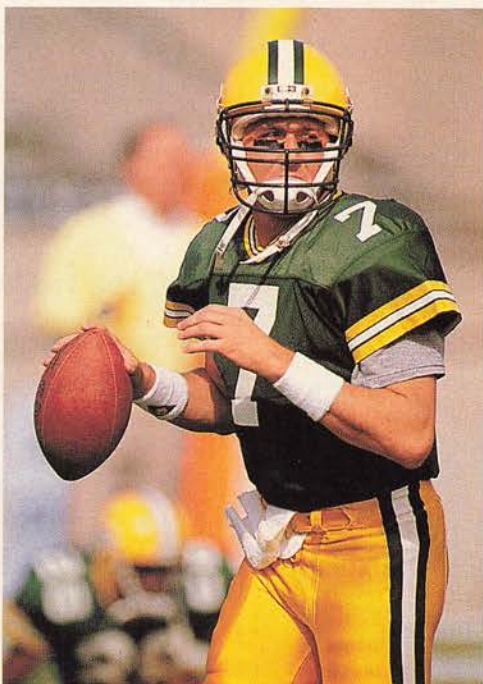
In our ranking of the NFL's "Super 78," we've tried to anticipate some of the status changes that we'll be seeing in 1990. Some of our rankings will surprise you, some will please you, and some will surely irritate you. The real rankings, of course, will emerge as the 17 weeks of the NFL season unfold. But like most football fans, we couldn't wait.

WE ALSO OFFER UP THIS MONTH

a sort of microcosm of the star renewal process, as it has developed in Los Angeles. Pitching excellence has been a trademark in Chavez Ravine, and as veteran Southern California baseball writer Tom Singer reminds us, it didn't die with the injury-influenced and premature retirements of Sandy Koufax and Don Drysdale in the late '60s. It continued through Claude Osteen and Don Sutton, Fernando Valenzuela and Orel Hershisser. And it still goes on. Some are borrowed, some are new, but they're all Dodger blue and they keep coming.

And so it goes in sports. We lose some heroes; we gain some new ones. If you're looking for some stability in all of this, be comforted in the knowledge that new stars will always be there to provide the standard by which all other players will be measured. And remember one other thing: SPORT will always be here to record their achievements. ★

Kelly Garrett,
Editor



RON VESSELY

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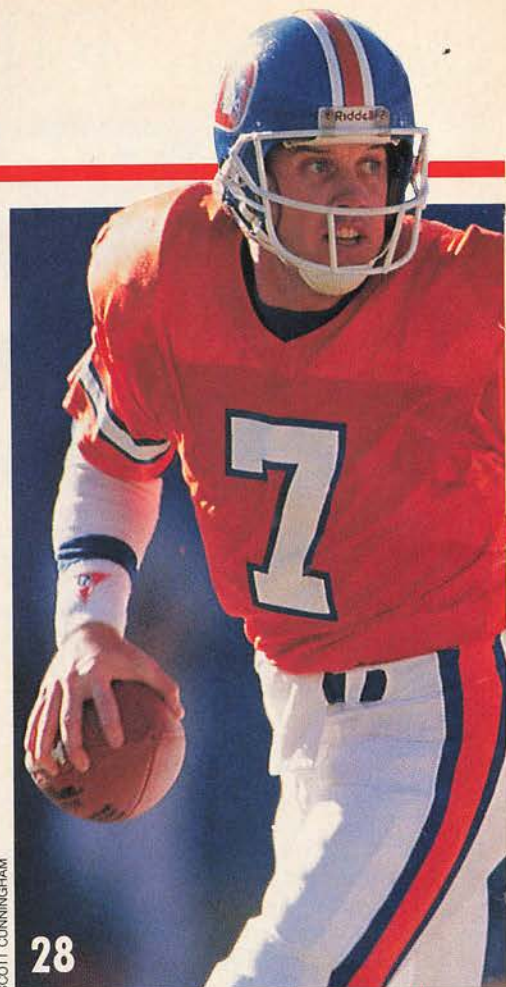
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SCOTT CUNNINGHAM

28

FEATURES

TALKIN' FOOTBALL 26

It's pad-pounding time again.

SHRINKING DENVER 28

A psychologist puts the Broncos on the couch. *By Dr. Saul Miller*

BYU BOMBS 32

The NFL ain't the WAC. *By Rick Weinberg*

TRAVELING TOES 35

Whither the kickers? *By Terry Mulgannon*

TWO FOR THE '90s 56

Eric and Herschel, meet Christian and Barry. *By William Ladson*

NFL LUCKY CHARMS 60

Who says the pros aren't superstitious? *By Raymond Harper*

ARMS IN THE CHAIN 62

No Orel? No problem. *By Tom Singer*

THE ART OF THE HOOK 78

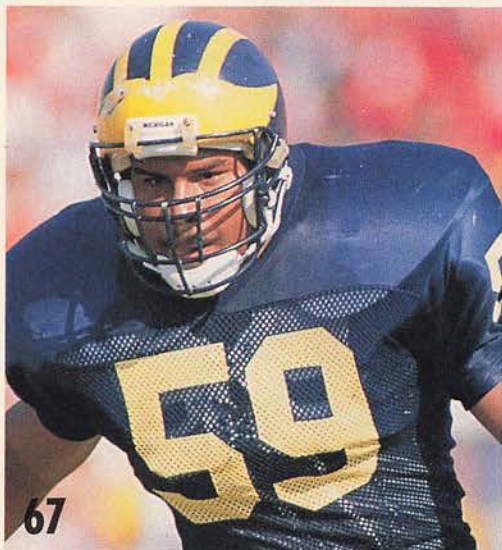
To pull or not to pull? *By Peter Korn*

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SPORT AUG.

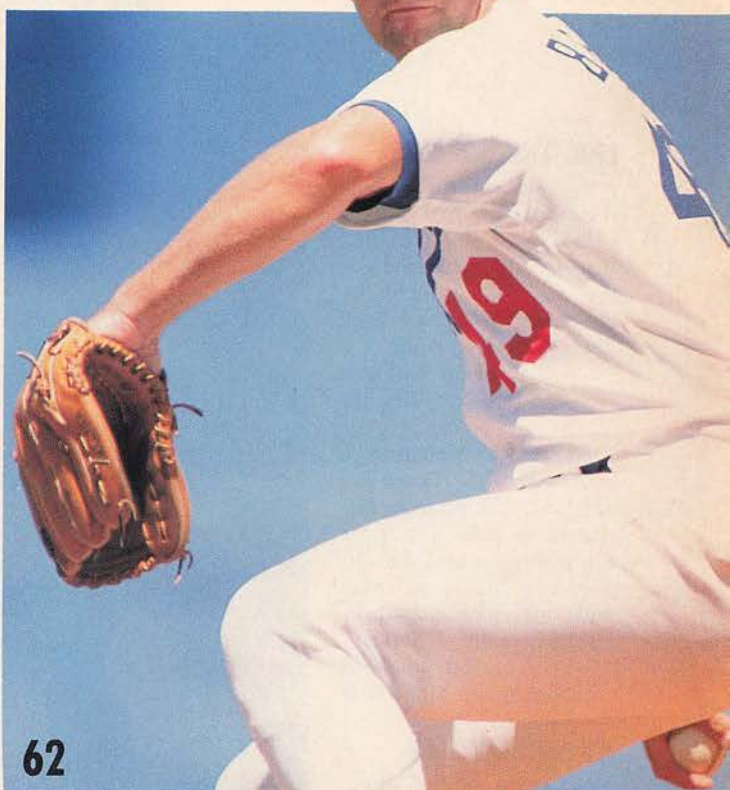


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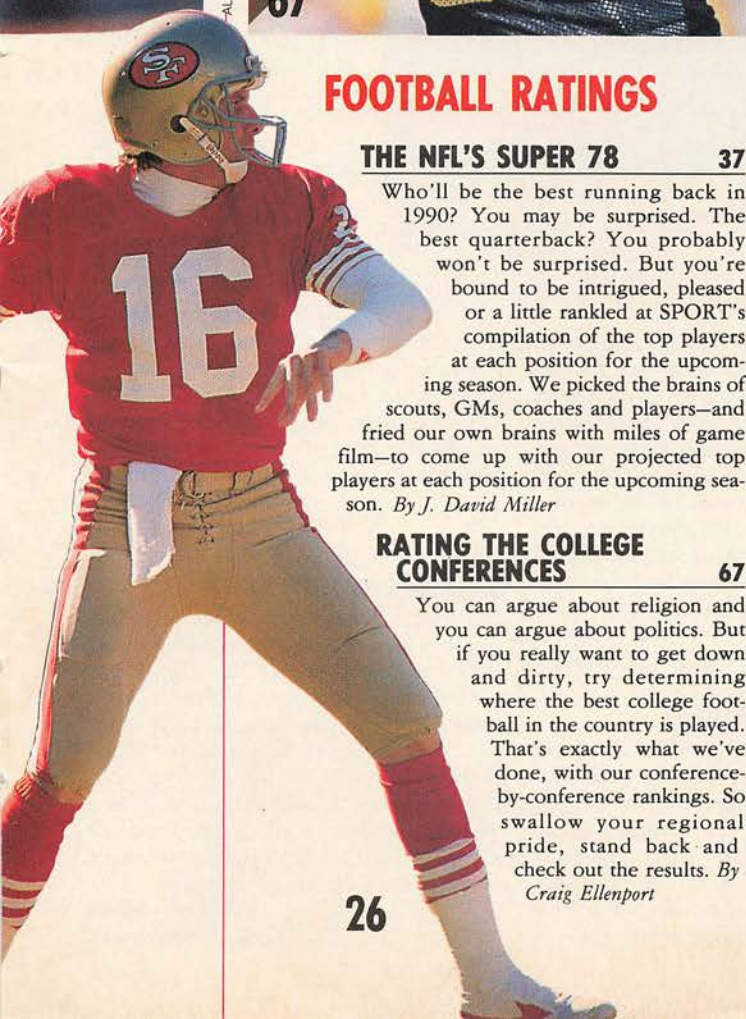


67

RON VESELY/FOCUS ON SPORTS



62



FOOTBALL RATINGS

THE NFL'S SUPER 78 37

Who'll be the best running back in 1990? You may be surprised. The best quarterback? You probably won't be surprised. But you're bound to be intrigued, pleased or a little rankled at SPORT's compilation of the top players at each position for the upcoming season. We picked the brains of scouts, GMs, coaches and players—and fired our own brains with miles of game film—to come up with our projected top players at each position for the upcoming season. *By J. David Miller*

RATING THE COLLEGE CONFERENCES 67

You can argue about religion and you can argue about politics. But if you really want to get down and dirty, try determining where the best college football in the country is played. That's exactly what we've done, with our conference-by-conference rankings. So swallow your regional pride, stand back and check out the results. *By Craig Ellenport*

26

DEPARTMENTS

FIRST PITCH 3

The first word in SPORT. *By Kelly Garrett*

SPORT MAIL 6

Blitzes from our readers.

SPORT BEAT 12

Tips, toasts and tidbits.

SPORT TALK 14

NBA movie stars, the Girls of Summer... and lots more.

BEERS WITH... GEORGE FOREMAN 23

Boxing's grandfather throws his weight around. *By Jeff Ryan*

SPORTWORD PUZZLE 29

"They Managed."

By Stanley Newman

SPORT QUIZ 83

Rate yourself, then beat the stumper for a SPORT pin. *By William Ladson and Raymond Harper*

SPORT ODDS 84

Pulling profits in the preseason. *By Danny Sheridan*

VOL. 81 NO. 8

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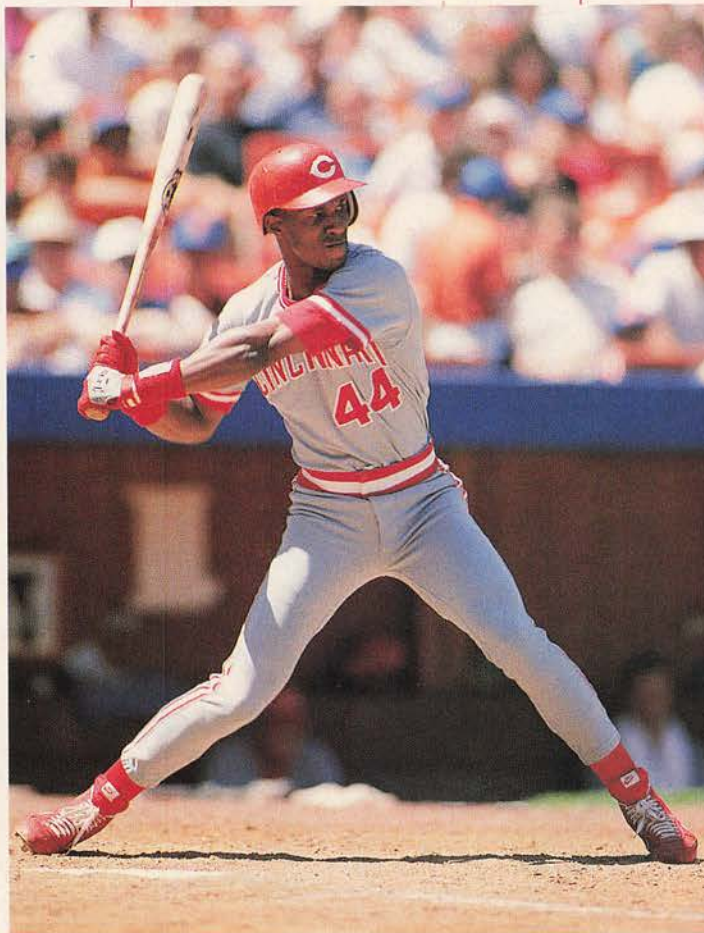
ERIC THE GREAT

Awesome article by Ron Rapoport on Eric Davis ("Eric Davis Soaks it Up," June). Eric (pictured) is the best center fielder in the league—and his best years are still to come.

Dwayne Williams
Fairdale, West Virginia

That was the first time I ever heard Eric Davis say anything of substance. My thanks to Ron Rapoport for going beyond the clichés and cluing us in on what this phenomenal ballplayer is really all about.

Jeff Bluefield
Los Angeles, California



BRYAN YABLONSKY

AUTHORITY GAP

Your article on "15 Baseball People Every Fan Should Know" (May) revealed how few blacks there are in any type of authority in baseball. Why don't people such as Billy Williams, Willie Stargell, Joe Morgan, Reggie Jackson, Rod Carew or countless other black former major-leaguers get a chance, while Larry Bowa and Bucky Dent are spoon-fed managerial jobs? I guess in a society where Hank Aaron couldn't get a unanimous vote into the Hall of Fame, the answer is obvious.

Mark Boyd Sr.
Michigan City, Indiana

ICE THRILLS

I'd like to thank SPORT and Steve Rosenbloom for capturing the excitement of the NHL playoffs. I recently moved from Washington Capitals country to Georgia, and I miss the NHL. Articles like this show Southerners exactly what ice hockey fans are cheering about. After reading "Sudden Death on Ice" in the June issue, how could anyone *not* be a hockey fan?

Marnie Cicci
Athens, Georgia

No sooner do I sit down and read your

superb article on overtime playoff games than I'm confronted with two of the most grueling examples I'd ever care to sit through. First, Tony Granato wins one for my Kings against Calgary, and then the roof caves in as the Oilers out-OT Los Angeles to win in the second round. I can testify that everything you wrote is true: Nothing is more gut-wrenching than overtime hockey when everything's on the line.

P.G. Smith
Los Angeles, California

GABRIELA SABATINI

Congratulations to SPORT for having the creativity to interview the great Gabriela Sabatini in her native tongue ("Gaby," June). I feel I know this graceful player a lot better. But after she spoke so convincingly in the interview about having neither the time nor the inclination to get involved romantically, I

started hearing all over the place that she now has a German boyfriend. Ruined my day.

Marion Cress
Los Angeles, California

Things happen.

LONG ODDS

I'd like to compliment Danny Sheridan on his fine article about the NBA Playoffs (SPORT Odds, June). But going into the playoffs, I don't think the odds were very good that Brent Musburger would be saying, "You are looking live at the Forum . . ." this time.

Travis Carrel
Boone, Iowa

Things keep happening. Musburger was canned by CBS, the network that covered the NBA Finals, April 1 and later signed on with ABC.

SHOELESS JOE

In his letter appearing in the June issue of SPORT Mail, a reader from Akron, Ohio, said that Joe Jackson was "mistakenly" depicted as a left-handed hitter in the movie *Eight Men Out*. I believe the movie the reader had in mind was *Field of Dreams*. Jackson was mistakenly shown to be a *right-handed* hitter.

Tony Tondelli
Elmhurst, Illinois

BUSTER'S BANDWAGON

In his March article predicting Mike Tyson would be beaten, Davis Miller never once mentioned Buster Douglas. Now, after Douglas shocked the world, Davis jumps on the bandwagon. In his June article ("Douglas vs. Foreman vs. Holyfield vs. Tyson"), he has Douglas beating everyone. I say when the heavyweight picture is all clear, Evander Holyfield will be the undisputed champ of the world. He is unstoppable.

Matthew Atkins
York, Pennsylvania

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This may be the one-billionth letter you've received commending your fantastic timing on the article "Mike Tyson Can Be Beat" (March). I thought it was correct even before Tyson was defeated. But I do not agree with Davis Miller's follow-up article in which he has Douglas beating virtually everybody, and George Foreman losing every match except with Tyson. And he has Evander Holyfield TKO'ing Foreman. As much as I respect an experienced sportswriter's views, and although I agree Holyfield is fast, Foreman hits as hard as anyone who has played the game. Sportswriters are so hung up on George's age that they fail to see that his punches can crumple anyone in the heavyweight division.

James Havins
San Bernardino, California

Davis Miller's comment about Tyson beating Holyfield is absurd. So is the comment about Douglas stopping Holyfield "fairly easily." You wouldn't say that if Douglas weren't the champion.

Jeff Huffman
Blaine, Minnesota

I'm a dedicated Iron Mike fan, and I was excited when I saw his picture on the June SPORT Quiz. But the fourth fighter to remain standing against Tyson (prior to the Douglas fight) was not Pinklon Thomas but James "Bonecrusher" Smith, who went the 12-round distance against Tyson in March of 1987.

Matt Callaghan
Lake Clear, New York.

Give yourself another point on the quiz and dock us one.

WHINING

Your comment in SPORT Beat (June) about the protests of Meldrick Taylor's people over his March 17 loss to Julio Cesar Chavez being "absurd and incessant whining" was really stupid. Their protest was legit. What would you call it if a boxer dominated a fight (two of the three judges had Taylor leading in the fight), was knocked down late in the last round, beat the count easily, and then have the referee stop the fight with two seconds left? I'd call it a little fishy.

Ben Capizzo
Troup, Texas

You people are so in love with Julio Cesar Chavez that you can't even count

right. Why is it so "absurd" for Meldrick Taylor's trainer, Lou Duva, to "whine" about referee Richard Steele stopping the fight with two—notice I say *two*—seconds left in a championship fight? Steele should know that Chavez couldn't have done anything more to Taylor in so short a time. He should pay attention to what's going on.

Jamil Menendez
Los Angeles, California

Our view is that in a knockdown situation, the referee should pay attention to the knocked-down fighter, not the clock. His job isn't to involve himself in conjecture of what might or might not happen, other than in consideration of the safety of the boxer. Sure, it's easy to say that with only two seconds left, Taylor would be safe. And for that reason the decision will always be controversial. But what if it were five seconds? Or 15? Where do you draw the line? The ref is not the timekeeper. His job is to look into the fighter's eyes, talk to him and decide whether he's a beaten fighter or not. Period. And by the way, we love Meldrick Taylor as much as we love Julio Cesar Chavez. How could you not admire both of them after one of the greatest fights in history?

BUSTED

I was satisfied to see Darryl Strawberry listed as a "bust" in your June salary survey. He's way overpaid and does one thing well: strike out.

Chad Coon
Coons Rapids, Minnesota



I was upset that you had Darryl Strawberry as a bust. He's part of what makes the Mets go and had good overall numbers.

Jeff Toliver
Heber Springs, Arkansas

Why pick on Darryl Strawberry? He has one off-year, hitting "only" 29 home runs, and he shows up on your cover as an example of a bust. How about teammates Keith Hernandez and Gary Carter, who combined for only 34 RBIs, or \$123,487 per in '89? Makes Strawberry's \$18,442 per RBI look like a bargain, huh?

Rick Meyerson
Miami, Florida

Marcus Allen is far from a bust. He was one of the leading rushers in 1989 before a knee injury sidelined him. At the end of the year, he had, as you reported, 293 yards on 69 carries. That's 4.2 yards per carry, a very good average. Marcus Allen has been a great player for the Raiders and well worth his salary because of his leadership and past accomplishments.

Kurt Strangler
New Prague, Minnesota

The busts we designated in the SPORT salary survey were simply those players whose production last year—for whatever reason—was out of proportion with their salary. By no means does such a designation necessarily reflect on an athlete's merit in the past or the future. That is especially true in the case of Marcus Allen, one of the true great ones in the '80s.

CLASS STRUGGLE

Of all the statements defending ballplayers' ridiculous salaries ("Bucks for Balls or Books," June), Jerome Walton's is the most bizarre when he (pictured) says "... teachers just wake up every morning and just sit in the classroom." Teachers train for life work; ballplayers entertain. There is a vast difference.

Al Siebert
Pinellas Park, Florida

I used to be a fan of Jerome Walton and the Chicago Cubs, but after reading his belittling comments toward teachers, I will

merely be a Chicago Cubs fan. It seems Mr. Walton has a twisted sense of what lifetime work is. While he was "working" on the playground, it would seem I wasted my early years in the classroom

Small Company's New Golf Ball Flies Too Far; Could Obsolete Many Golf Courses

Pro Hits 400-Yard Tee Shots During Test Round

Want To Shoot An Eagle or Two?

By Mike Henson

MERIDEN, CT — A small golf company in Connecticut has created a new, super ball that flies like a U-2, putts with the steady roll of a cue ball and bites the green on approach shots like a dropped cat. But don't look for it on weekend TV. Long-hitting pros could make a joke out of some of golf's finest courses with it. One pro who tested the ball drove it 400 yards, reaching the green on all but the longest par-fours. Scientific tests by an independent lab using a hitting machine prove the ball out-distances major brands dramatically.

The ball's extraordinary distance comes partly from a revolutionary new dimple design that keeps the ball aloft longer. But there's also a secret change in the core that makes it rise faster off the clubhead. Another change reduces air drag. The result is a ball that gains altitude quickly, then sails like a glider. None of the changes is noticeable in the ball itself.

Despite this extraordinary performance the company has a problem. A spokesman put it this way: "In golf you need endorsements and TV publicity. This is what gets you in the pro shops and stores where 95% of all golf products are sold. Unless the pros use your ball on TV, you're virtually locked out of these outlets."

TV advertising is too expensive to buy on your own, at least for us.

"Now, you've seen how far this ball can fly. Can you imagine a pro using it on TV and eagle-ing par-fours? It would turn the course into a par-three, and real men don't play par-three's. This new fly-power forces us to sell it without relying on pros or pro-shops. One way is to sell it direct from our plant. That way we can keep the name printed on the ball a secret that only a buyer would know. There's more to golf than tournaments, you know."

The company guarantees a golfer a prompt refund if the new ball doesn't cut five to ten strokes off his or her average score. Simply return the balls — new or used — to the address below. "No one else would dare do that," boasted the company's director.

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trying to achieve academically. I guess that's how I wound up where I am, sitting on my duff while 170 kids run amuck through my classroom each day. But I would like to give a sincere thanks to those players who had intelligent comments to your question and recognize that they are not to be made fall guys for an unfair system.

Darrell Wayenberg
Madera, California

Please extend an open invitation to Jerome Walton to visit Pennsauken High School. He can try his hand at teaching. As a substitute, he can make at least \$40, which I will gladly pay out of my own pocket if he can find more than a few teachers "just sitting" in front of their class.

Charles Arnold
Pennsauken, New Jersey

Why should ballplayers or any other talented individual feel badly because they earn more money than public school teachers? Ballplayers support their com-

munities through taxes, charitable work and other contributions. They work hard and earn their pay based on the value of their services. As a teacher, I respect the implication that we work with a low pay scale and a low degree of public confidence and esteem. But please don't patronize us by putting down successful individuals who have no more say in the setting of our country's priorities than the rest of us.

Jeff Hund
Tucson, Arizona

I take my hat off to Benzinger, Zeile, Magrane and Foster, who obviously have their heads screwed on right.

Yvonne M. Magner
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

Is Jerome Walton going to run for president of the National Teachers Association?

Joe Fredland
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Baseball salaries are *not* out of line with

teacher's salaries. When you consider the long odds against reaching even the minors and the short careers of most players, I don't think society has anything to apologize for. Comparing the entire teaching profession to only the elite major-leaguers is bogus.

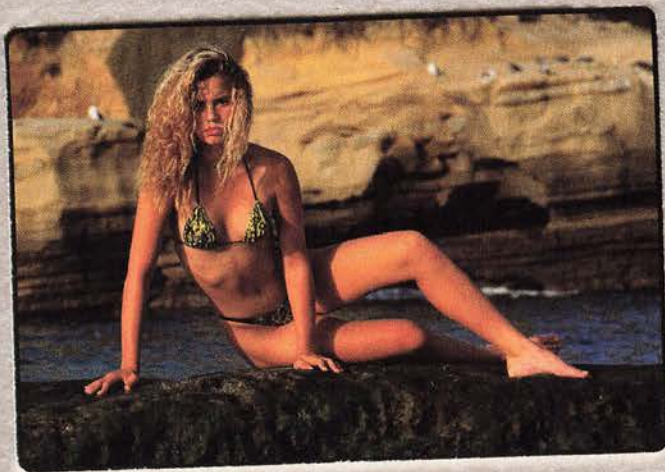
Scott Avidon
Brooklyn, New York

Permit me my own stereotypic view of baseball players. I think most of you guys have flabby butts and fat guts. If you do not fit into my categorization, Mr. Walton, I hope I have offended you. Perhaps then you will understand my adverse reaction to your thoughtless comments. If you are not sure of my point, I suggest you ask a teacher to assist you.

Laurie Gurley
Athens, Georgia

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SPORT MAGAZINE SWIMSUIT ISSUE



SPORT MAGAZINE SWIMSUIT ISSUE

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SPORT MAGAZINE SWIMSUIT ISSUE



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To collect, just send us the UPC symbol (the white box with the funny lines) from your Kirin case or six-pack, and the cash register receipt (with price circled) from your purchase.

The deadline for our rebate

offer is December 31, 1990. Remember that for our sweepstakes, however, it's much sooner.

And if you miss our sweepstakes, you'll have lost this: your chance at a vacation so tantalizing, they'll be lining up for the pictures at newsstands everywhere.



KIRIN

The Mysteriously Satisfying Beer Of The Orient.



SPORT BEAT



COURTESY OF THE U OF HOUSTON
Chuck Weatherspoon



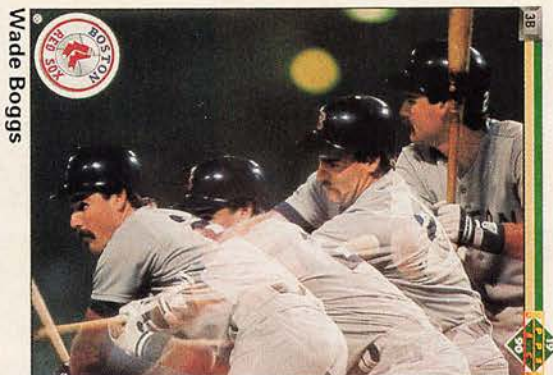
John Tudor



Reggie Jackson



Orel Hershiser



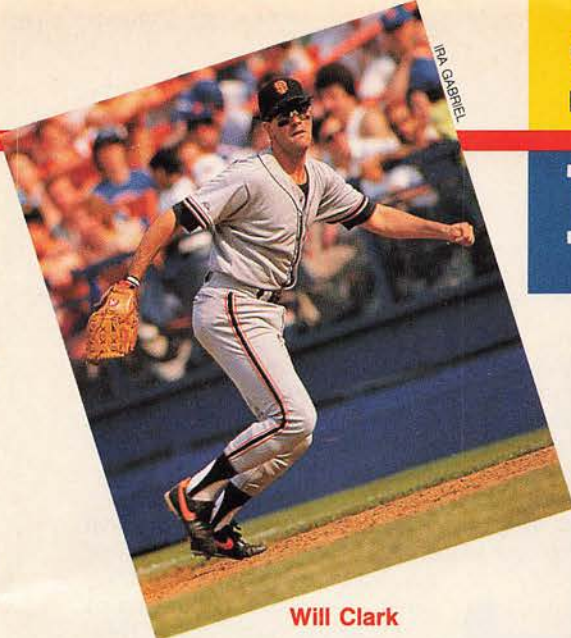
Wade Boggs

There's no use denying it—SPORT Magazine has developed a cover jinx. We don't mean some watered-down weekly version where a few of more than 52 sports-magazine cover subjects happen to have a bad week after their mug gets displayed on the newsstands. No, we're talking serious SPORT cover-boy downtime... It started back in 1989 when SPORT chose **Lakers** guard **Magic Johnson** as a cover subject. The day of the photography session in February—the very same day—Magic suffered a partial tear of his left hamstring while driving around the **Golden State Warriors' Manute Bol** to the basket. Johnson missed five games, and later reinjured the same hamstring during the NBA Finals against the **Detroit Pistons**... A month later, a SPORT photography crew met up with **Oakland Athletics** basher **Jose Canseco** at the A's spring-training camp in Arizona. Canseco, at the time, was recovering from a wrist injury that had limited his Grapefruit League appearances. But guess what happened just after the SPORT photo session? Jose reinjured the wrist on March 22 and missed the entire first half of the 1989 season... The **Orel Hershiser** tragedy unfolded in two stages. After his sterling 1988 season, SPORT featured the **Dodgers'** ace on the March 1989 cover. Orel went on to pitch well in 1989, and injury-free. But two days before a planned photography session with Her-

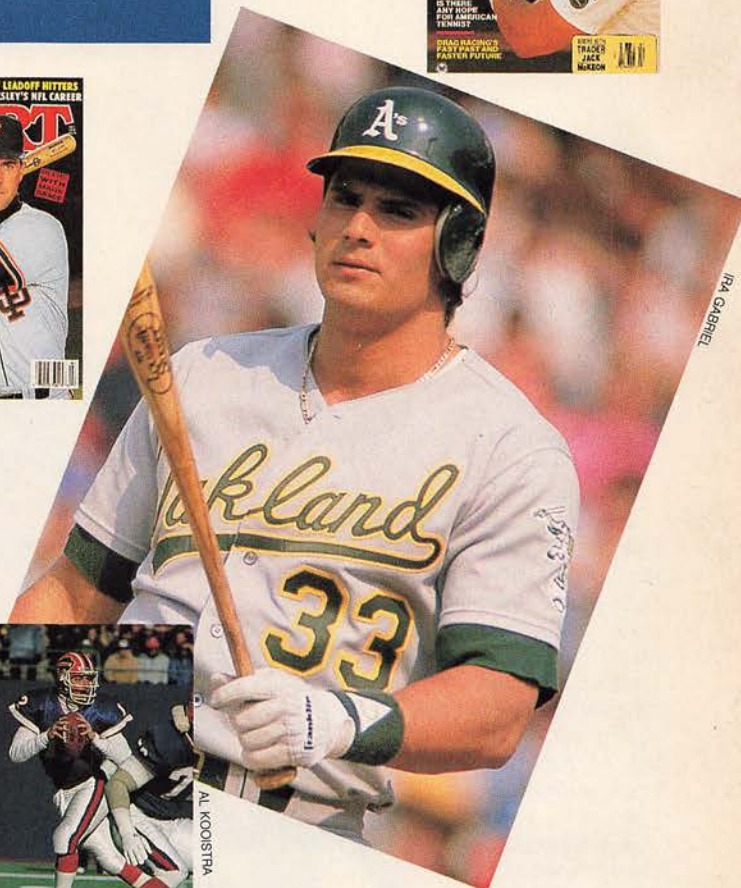
shiser and other Dodgers pitchers for a feature in this very issue (see page 62) his career was threatened with the discovery of a serious rotator cuff injury... In fact, maybe the jinx is at the point where just a major feature—forget the cover—is enough to cause problems. No sooner did you get your copy of the June 1990 SPORT, featuring a profile of **Eric Davis** (who, by the way, posed for photos to accompany the article), than the star **Cincinnati Reds** outfielder suffered a sprained right knee while sliding into third base and found himself on the 21-day disabled list... Two other recent SPORT Magazine single-subject cover heroes seem to have emerged relatively unscathed, unless you count the pummeling **Jim Everett** (January '90 SPORT cover) and the **Los Angeles Rams** took from the **49ers** in the NFC title game, or the three days **Bo Jackson** missed in April due to illness in his family. Still, **Will Clark**, be careful, please.

What's **Reggie Jackson** up to these days? For one thing, he's joined **Joe Torre** on **California Angels** telecasts, which makes for one of the more insightful and penetrating (if overly verbose) baseball telecasting duos. He also collects baseball cards—avidly. We caught up with Reggie at the Columbia Bar & Grille in Hollywood recently, where the firm and fit future Hall-of-Famer ordered his pasta with "no butter, no sauce, no cheese, no garlic, no special exci-

SPORT BEAT



Will Clark



Jose Canseco



Hubie Brooks



Jim Kelly

tations," and then spent his lunch hour flicking freshly unpacked Upper Deck baseball cards around the table, noting each one's potential value. Reggie has advice for investors: Gather future Hall-of-Famers, now. And that includes Reggie Jackson. Mr. October has about 2,000 of his own cards, including 100 of his rare rookie cards. His new favorites, though, are the recently introduced Upper Deck cards. They're known for their little 3-D holograms, but what distinguish Upper Deck cards is the creativity of their photography. Note the **Wade Boggs** card above. There've been many theories about the new wave of baseball card popularity, but Jackson puts it best: "They're neat."

Back-to-back Heisman Trophy winners (different players) from the same school? The last time it happened was in 1945-46, when **Glenn Davis** followed **Doc Blanchard** to bring double glory to **Army**. But watch out. Last year's winner, **Andre Ware**, has left things in good hands at **Houston**, where 5-foot-7, 210-pound senior running back **Chuck Weatherspoon** has a chance to become just the fourth player in Southwest Conference history to surpass 1,000 yards rushing in three straight seasons. Chuck's known as **Little Spoon** because his older brother was **Big Spoon**. He has a younger brother, a sophomore at Houston, known as **Teaspoon**. "Now he's bigger

than me," Weatherspoon told us. "He's a tablespoon"... Another senior to watch: Before **Browning Nagle** started a single game, **Louisville** head coach **Howard Schnellenberger** was comparing him to **Jim Kelly**, who he coached at **Miami**. Said Schnellenberger, "Browning can throw the ball just as well, both in distance and accuracy." Ever since Coach S. made the comparisons to Kelly, Nagle has played like the current **Buffalo Bills** star. And like Kelly did for Miami, Nagle is about to take Louisville's football program to new heights... A baseball clubhouse is almost a live, breathing entity, with its own personality and moods. Curiously, despite its so-so early season record and its far-flung collection of ex-American Leaguers, the **Los Angeles Dodgers** clubhouse is considerably better in the vibe department than it was last year and even during the championship season of 1988. Such are the reports from almost everybody connected with the team. One reason may be the absence of **Pedro Guerrero** (never a favorite with the press), **Mike Marshall** (often resented for missing games) and **John Tudor** (who just never seemed to like the club or the city). Another may be the presence of **Hubie Brooks**, who, besides his penchant for hitting game-winning home runs, combines a dry and witty humor with a let's-play attitude. That sparkle you see at Dodger Stadium isn't just the new paint job and the 100th Anniversary decorations. It's Hubie. ★

SPORT TALK

THE GIRLS OF SUMMER

In Hollywood, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery—and the surest route to a hit. So when baseball flicks such as Orion's *Bull Durham* and Universal's *Field of Dreams* produced lines at the box office, could 20th Century Fox be far behind?

Fat chance.

That explains the hardball epic now being filmed in Midwest locales by director David (Hoosiers) Anspaugh from a script by Babaloo (Parent-hood) Mandell. It's about a colorful, almost forgotten chapter of baseball history dating back to the '40s—the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League.

A League of Their Own chases the lives of two players—a young mother whose husband is off fighting World War II, and her teen-age sister. While you can file the mother-sister thing under "F" for fiction, the band of female Will Clarks and Ozzie Smiths did exist, and their spectacular play filled ballparks with leather-lunged fans.

At first, the yahoos went after the players with predictably lame taunts ("Hey, you got a run in your stocking"), but that soon stopped as the fans began to appreciate how much talent the women were putting on display.

It all began early in 1942. Baseball faced the dreary possibility that the game might be suspended for the duration of the war. Gum magnate and Chicago Cubs' owner P.K. Wrigley met the challenge head on, and he announced the birth of the All-American Girls Softball League.

He ordered the Cubs' chief scout, Jim Hamilton, to set up tryout camps across the United States and Canada. They yielded 200 potential players. In April of '43, the 200 reported to Chicago for limited spring training, and the weeding out began.

"Mr. Wrigley didn't want athletic chorus girls," ex-player Lil Jackson says. "He wanted hard-nosed ballplayers, but ladies. Every day after practice, he sent us to Helena Rubinstein's charm school. We learned how to apply makeup, how to get in and out of a chair, and how to carry on a ladylike conversation."

In May, Wrigley divided the 65 survivors of the final cut into four teams—the Rockford (Illinois) Peaches, South Bend (Indiana) Blue Sox, Kenosha (Wisconsin)

Comets and Racine (Wisconsin) Belles. He hired a male manager and a female chaperone for each squad. Among the former major-league stars who managed clubs were Hall-of-Famers Jimmie Foxx, Dave Bancroft and Max Carey.

That first season of 108 games, they played a modified version of softball. But soon the name was changed to the All-American Girls Baseball League, and the ball was reduced accordingly. Sidearm pitching appeared, along with new franchises, including Chicago.

The women drew big crowds because they played what Dizzy Dean used to call "good old country hardball." One player, Pepper Paire, still enthuses about the league's best second baseman, Ziggy Ziegler. "When Ziggy pivoted on the double play," Paire says, "the runner coming from first had to hit

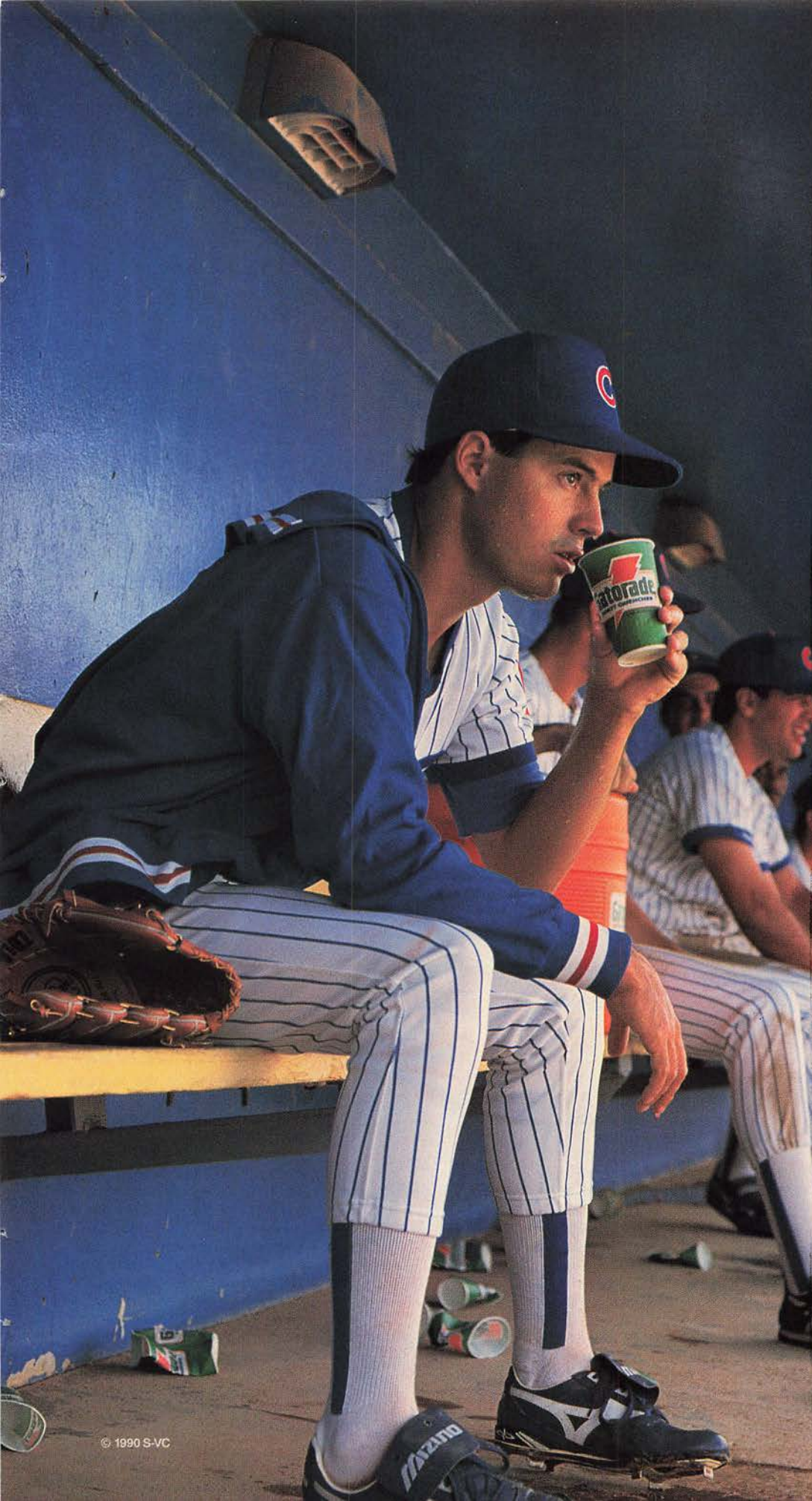
the dirt, or she'd get the ball right between the eyes."

Others had talent too. Charlie Grimm, then manager of the Chicago Cubs, after watching the South Bend club in action, said this about shortstop Dorothy Schroeder: "If she was a boy, I'd give \$50,000 for her." To give you an idea of how much money that was in those days, the Yankees were employing a center fielder they'd purchased from the San Francisco Seals for a mere \$25,000. A chap named DiMaggio.

—Jerry D. Lewis



SHANNON JEFFRIES



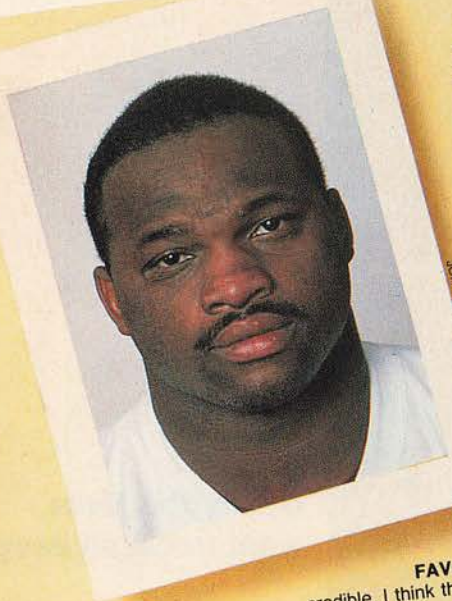
**If only the Mets
went down so easy.**

**Fluids.
Minerals.
Energy.
Gatorade.[®]
For that
deep down
body thirst.**



PROFILE

MICHAEL DEAN PERRY



VITALS: Defensive tackle for the Cleveland Browns. 6-foot, 280 pounds. Born August 27, 1965, in Aiken, South Carolina; youngest of 12 children. Brother to William, "The Refrigerator." Established career sack record of 28 at Clemson, surpassing William's mark of 25. Drafted by Browns in 1988. AFC Pro Bowl selection in 1989, only his second season.

NICKNAME: Dean of Defense. (Sorry, appliance lovers.)

WHAT ABOUT WILLIAM'S NICKNAME? "I think the name fits him. I think he deserves it. He's a phenomenal athlete. He's earned the recognition."

GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS: "I think my greatest accomplishment is having a 3-year-old girl [Amber Michelle]."

BEST MOMENT: "When I scored my first touchdown against Houston my rookie season. A lot of guys go through their whole career and not score a touchdown. I was fortunate enough to do it my first year. I picked [a fumble] up and rumbled about 10 yards."

WORST MOMENT: "My mother passing in '88, the 27th of February. It was very tough."

CHILDHOOD HERO: "My brothers. I really didn't have a public figure who I looked up to. I patterned myself after my brothers. They were exceptional athletes."

WHEELS: Pearl white 1989 Jaguar XJ6. "I just like the color pearl white."

PERFECT WOMAN: "About 5-1, 110 pounds, pecan-tan complexion, very intelligent. My fiancée [Trini Sherman]."

FAVORITE MOVIE: "Spike Lee's *Do the Right Thing*. That woman [in the opening dance scene] was incredible. I think that's what about the movie I like the best."

LAST BOOK READ: "Now I have to go back to high school. *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*."

TOUGHEST COMPETITION: Back home. "We were very competitive. We play a game of Ping-Pong, and we try to beat each other to death. We're a very competitive people. No matter if it was against our brothers or just Joe Blow up the street, we're going to try to do our best."

LITTLE BROTHER'S ADVICE: "By the mere fact that the Bears were winning [in '85], nobody made a big deal about [William's weight]. But now that at a point where he's burned out, from a media standpoint."

BIG BROTHER'S ADVICE: "He always says, 'Take it in stride, Dean. Take it in stride, Dean. What ever happens, happens.'"

IF I'D NEVER MADE THE NFL, I'D: "Probably be working with handicapped children because that was my major in college—therapeutic recreation. Trying to make a change in a handicapped kid's life."

IF I WERE NFL COMMISSIONER, I'D: "Probably crack down a little harder on the drug problem and steroid problem in the NFL."

THE PLAYER I WOULD LEAST LIKE TO SEE COMING AT ME WITH THE BALL: "Refrigerator. He's 300 pounds. He has a good burst. He's just an unbelievable athlete."

BEST OFFENSIVE LINEMAN: "Mike Munchak of Houston. He has agility, mobility, strength, and he knows how to play the game."

DIRTIEST OFFENSIVE LINEMAN: "Let me give a team—Cincinnati. They cut, cut, cut. It's unbelievable. You take a step and fall to the ground."

TOUGHEST QUARTERBACK: "Randall Cunningham. Without a doubt. The guy can do so many things; he can beat you so many ways. You're not really gonna shut him down; you just contain him. And that's just tough trying to contain him. He can roll out and throw it 60, 70 yards."

BEST DESCRIPTION OF THE DAWG POUND: "The Dawg Pound is dangerous. You have fans out there venting their frustrations. They're cheering, hollering, and many don't have their shirts on [in 10-degree weather]. They elevate us all to top form."

BEST DESCRIPTION OF CLEVELAND: "Culture shock, climate shock. It's very, very big. Very industrial. It's very, very cold."

—Stig A. Jantz

BOTTOMS UP FOR
THE BEST BARTENDER
IN SPORT COMPETITION

Like sports bars? So do we. But these days, it's not enough to throw up a minibasketball game and order some cable. No way. You want to run a real sports bar, you got to be good at it.

That's why we at SPORT, in our ceaseless quest to ensure excellence in all things sporting, will once again serve on the judges' panel at the 1990 Best Bartender in Sport contest at none other than Jerry Tarkanian's

Shark Club in Las Vegas, August 23-26.

More than 100 sport bartenders from across the country will be judged on their speed and style; the taste, originality, name and presentation of a new drink made with Southern Comfort; and their ability to come up with the right answers to a



special version of the famous SPORT Quiz. There's \$10,000 in prizes and a heck of a lot of prestige at stake.

Who qualifies as a sport bartender? We'll let event organizer David George explain: "It matters not if the sports bar is large or small, if it's a shrine to sports with memorabilia galore or just the corner pub where the hometown faithful gather to watch the game. If sports and catering to the sports fan is the main focus, you qualify."

If you want to be a contestant, you can get a registration packet by calling toll free at 800-545-8598.

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SPORT STARS

Sports people, big days,
and what the stars said.

SUBJECT: JERRY TARKANIAN

SIGN: Leo (b. August 8, 1930)

DATE: April 2, 1990. Tarkanian guides UNLV to a 103-73 victory over the Duke Blue Devils to win the NCAA Basketball Championship.

THAT DAY'S HOROSCOPE (from Sydney Omarr, *Washington Post*): "It will be revealed that you have achieved something of major proportions. A celebration that had been delayed will now take place."

SUBJECT: MIKE KRZYZEWSKI

SIGN: Aquarius (b. February 13, 1947)

DATE: April 2, 1990. Krzyzewski's Duke Blue Devils are the victims of UNLV's Final Four slaughter.

THAT DAY'S HOROSCOPE (from Jeanne Dixon, *San Francisco Chronicle*): "Be thrifty and pay attention to detail. Keep track of the clock; time flies and you could be running late."

SUBJECT: MICHAEL DOKES

SIGN: Leo (b. August 10, 1958)

DATE: April 4, 1990. The former WBA heavyweight champion is knocked unconscious for two minutes by a Razor Ruddock punch with 53 seconds left in the fourth round.

THAT DAY'S HOROSCOPE: (from Lloyd Cope, *Dell Horoscope 1990 Yearbook*): "Those who entertain ambitious dreams of... professional laurels are likely to feel completely at sea today when an important plan is thwarted by peculiar circumstances.... Social life is a fiasco to-night."

—Compiled by William Ladson

BOB MYERS

FIVE WHO MADE IT TO THE MOVIES



**KAREEM
ABDUL-JABBAR**

Formerly of the Bucks and Lakers
Airplane, 1980
Game of Death, 1979



MYCHAL THOMPSON

Lakers
The Fish That Saved Pittsburgh, 1979



JAMAAL WILKES

Formerly of the Warriors, Lakers and Clippers
Combread, Earl and Me, 1975



ALEX ENGLISH

Nuggets
The Amazing Grace and Chuck, 1987



MARK MCNAMARA

Lakers
Return of the Jedi, 1983

TALE OF THE TAPE

CHARLES SHACKLEFORD VS. JIM VALVANO

They've both mercifully left the North Carolina State basketball program, but not before putting all of us through a two-year merry-go-round of denials, admissions and excuses concerning the now-familiar topic of college sports scandals. Maybe these two could have pummeled some truth out of each other right at the beginning. Shackleford's got the reach, but nobody has a glibber vocal one-two than the convex-faced former Wolfpack coach.



| VALVANO | | SHACKLEFORD |
|--|------------------------|---|
| 44 | AGE | 24 |
| 6-0 | HEIGHT | 6-10 |
| 180 | WEIGHT | 225 |
| EX-COACH, N.C. STATE | DAY JOB | BACKUP FORWARD, NEW JERSEY NETS |
| WON '83 NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP | AT HIS COLLEGE BEST | 16.6 PPG IN '87-88 SEASON |
| THAT HE NEGLECTED ETHICAL AND ACADEMIC STANDARDS | ALLEGED | THAT HE WAS INVOLVED IN A POINTS- SHAVING SCANDAL |
| NOTHING | ADMITTED TO | ACCEPTING \$60,000 "LOAN" AT N.C. STATE |
| "I FEEL HELPLESS. I HAD NO IDEA." | QUOTE | "I WAS YOUNG. I WAS POOR." |
| TELEVISION EVANGELIST | TRUE CALLING | BACKUP FORWARD |

JAMAAL WILKES COURTESY OF THE NBA, KAREEM ABDUL-JABBAR COURTESY OF THE NBA, ALEX ENGLISH COURTESY OF THE NBA, MARK MCNAMARA COURTESY OF THE NBA, MYCHAL THOMPSON COURTESY OF THE NBA

TEN THINGS YOU NEVER KNEW ABOUT WRIGLEY FIELD

1. Wrigley Field, site of the 1947, 1962 and 1990 All-Star games, was named after William Wrigley Jr., Cubs owner and chewing-gum magnate, in 1926. It was built in 1914 for the Chicago Feds of the Federal League for an estimated \$250,000 and called Weeghman Park.

2. The highest-scoring game in major-league history was played at Wrigley Field on August 25, 1922. The Cubs beat the Phillies, 26-23.

3. The upper deck was added in 1926, increasing capacity from 14,000 to 37,741. But 50,740 fans attended Game 1 of the 1929 World Series between the Cubs and the Philadelphia Athletics when Sheffield Avenue was closed and temporary right-field bleachers were installed on the street.

4. Babe Ruth's famous called home run in 1932—some observers said he was merely letting Cubs hurler Charlie Root know that he had one strike left—was also the Babe's 15th and final World Series dinger.

5. The ivy covering the brick outfield wall, which Bill Veeck helped plant in 1938, is more than a cushion for outfielders. Cubs outfielder Hank Sauer used to store tobacco pouches in the ivy, and Jose Cardenal sometimes hid an extra ball there.

6. Hall-of-Famer Gabby Hartnett's "home in the gloamin'" in 1938 didn't win the pennant for the Cubs, as many believe. They took the league title two days later.

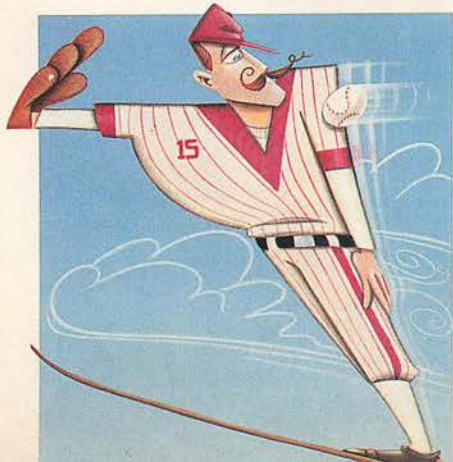
7. Ski jumping was a popular winter Wrigley Field pastime in the 1940s. Brave souls started on the upper deck behind home plate, went down a slide and landed—hopefully—out around second base.

8. Wrigley Field was often lit up at night in the 1950s with portable lights for boxing and wrestling matches, political rallies and rodeos. In 1954, the Harlem Globetrotters beat George Mikan's U.S. Stars under the lights.

9. The Bears, 50-year tenants at Wrigley, played the last NFL game there in 1970. They beat the Packers, 35-17.

10. The fence on the top of the outfield wall was put up in 1970 to keep bleacher bums from getting too close to the action.

—Mark Mandernach



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Automatic focus binoculars that give you a big plus others don't.



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plus



They have fast central focus capability for close-up viewing.

With Nikon's new StayFocus Plus Series, you'll see things you can't with most other automatic focus binoculars.

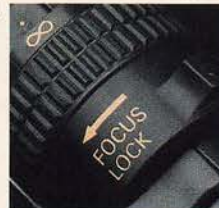
When watching action at a distance, a ballgame for example, you never have to focus. StayFocus Plus has a "no focus" setting that keeps images razor sharp—automatically. So you won't miss a beat.

But if you want to focus in on a close-up subject, say the backyard birdhouse, you can do that as well. Because StayFocus Plus gives you something all other automatic focus binoculars don't: the versatility of central focus with a total range of viewing from close-up to infinity—plus Nikon's exclusive Focus Lock that lets you prefocus and lock in any distance (it's like having automatic focus for close-up viewing, too).

Add Nikon's legendary multi-coated optics, right eyepiece diopter adjustments essential for optimum viewing comfort and a limited 25-year warranty, and StayFocus Plus binoculars have more than one big plus.

Look for them in 7×35, 7×50 or 10×50 models at a Nikon dealer near you. And see what you could have been missing.

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DISCS, DISCS, DISCS,



Linda Ronstadt—Cry Like a Rainstorm, Howl Like the Wind (Elektra) 389-874



Aerosmith—Pump (Geffen) 388-009



Bobby Brown—Dance... Ya Know It (MCA) 402-602



Alannah Myles (Atlantic) 404-475



Billy Joel—Storm Front (Columbia) 387-902



Mötley Crüe—Dr. Feelgood (Elektra) 387-944

Basia—London Warsaw New York (Epic) 401-752

TAKE YOUR PICK OF ANY 8

Stacy Lattisaw—What You Need (Motown) 405-365

Havana Black—Indian Warrior (Capitol) 405-175

Seduction—Nothing Matters Without Love (A&M) 404-954

Chick Corea Electric Band—Inside Out (GRP) 404-574

Smokey Robinson—Love, Smokey (Motown) 404-566

Dianne Reeves—Never Too Far (EMI) 404-517

Calloway—All The Way (Solar/Epic) 404-491

Michel'le (Ruthless) 404-483

Earth, Wind & Fire—Heritage (Columbia) 404-004

Kylie Minogue—Enjoy Yourself (Geffen) 403-857

Hank Williams, Jr.—Lone Wolf (Warner Bros.) 403-840

The Little Mermaid—Original Soundtrack (Disneyland) 403-758

Jungle Brothers—Done By The Forces Of Nature (Warner Bros.) 403-725

Maze Featuring Frankie Beverly—The Greatest Hits/Lifelines Volume I (Capitol) 403-642

The Big F (FFF/Elektra) 403-592

Tina Turner—Foreign Affair (Capitol) 387-118

M.C. Hammer—Please Hammer, Don't Hurt 'Em (Capitol) 403-477

Miki Howard (Atlantic) 403-451

Prong—Beg To Differ (Epic) 404-699



Richard Marx—Repeat Offender (EMI) 380-915

Born On The Fourth Of July—Original Sound Track (MCA) 404-947

Sheena Easton—The Collection (EMI America) 404-863

Savatage—Gutter Ballet (Atlantic) 404-855

The Kinks—UK Jive (MCA) 403-303

Kaoma—World Beat (Epic) 402-800

George Harrison—Best Of Dark Horse 1976-1989 (Dark Horse) 402-594

Mc Lyte—Eyes On This (First Priority Music) 402-370

Crosby, Stills, Nash And Young—Deja Vu (Atlantic) 404-202

Jimi Hendrix—Early Classics (Special Music Co.) 402-677

Alice Cooper—School's Out (Warner Bros.) 402-644

Eagles—Live (Elektra) 400-713/390-716

Joe Cocker—Mad Dogs And Englishmen (A&M) 389-783

The Band—To Kingdom Come... The Definitive Collection (Capitol) 388-181/398-180

The Best Of The Dregs—Divided We Stand (Arista) 386-979

Bo Diddley Is A Gunslinger (Chess) 379-677

Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young—So Far (Atlantic) 378-745

Roy Orbison—The All-Time Hits, Vols. 1 & 2 (Columbia Special Prod.) 377-945

The Who—Who's Better, Who's Best (MCA) 376-657

Steppenwolf—16 Greatest Hits (MCA) 372-425

Grateful Dead—Europe 72 (Warner Bros.) 370-064/390-062



Roxette—Look Sharp! (Parlophone) 381-939

3rd Bass—The Cactus Album (Def Jam/Columbia) 403-436

Shawn Colvin—Steady On (Columbia) 403-295

Queen Latifah—All Hail The Queen (Tommy Boy) 403-287

Jim Croce—Jim Croce Live: The Final Tour (Saja) 403-154

Voivod—Nothingface (Mechanic) 402-982

Jody Watley—You Wanna Dance With Me? (MCA) 402-610

Lenny Kravitz—Let Love Rule (Virgin) 401-893

Oran "Juice" Jones—To Be Immortal (OBCL) 402-784

Dave Grusin—The Fabulous Baker Boys Soundtrack (GRP) 402-958

Van Morrison—Astral Weeks (Warner Bros.) 364-901

Little Feat—Dixie Chicken (Warner Bros.) 363-515

Grateful Dead—American Beauty (Warner Bros.) 358-895

Best Of The Doors (Elektra) 357-616/397-612

Bob Dylan—Blood On The Tracks (Columbia) 353-094

Yes—Close To The Edge (Atlantic) 351-965

Aretha Franklin—30 Greatest Hits (Atlantic) 350-793/390-799

Rolling Stones—Exile On Main Street (Rolling Stones Rec.) 350-652

Rolling Stones—Sticky Fingers (Rolling Stones Rec.) 350-645

Buddy Holly—From The Orig. Master Tapes (MCA) 348-110



Gloria Estefan—Cuts Both Ways (Epic) 382-341

Pat Benatar—Best Shots (Chrysalis) 401-646

Yo-Yo Ma—Great Cello Concertos (CBS Master) 401-604

Survivor—Greatest Hits (Scotti Brothers) 401-521

Ace Frehley—Trouble Walkin' (All/Megatone Worldwide) 401-299

Ozzy Osbourne—Just Say Ozzy (CBS Associated) 401-265

Don McLean—For The Memories Volume 1 & 2 (Gold Castle) 401-224

Chicago—Greatest Hits 1982-1989 (Reprise) 401-166

The Front (Columbia) 400-903

The Rippingtons—Kilimanjaro (GRP) 400-853

Rush—Presto (Atlantic) 401-695

Kenny G Live (Arista) 401-505

Randy Travis—No Holdin' Back (Warner Bros.) 389-767

Terence Trent D'Arby—Neither Fish Nor Flesh (Columbia) 389-726

Steely Dan—Can't Buy A Thrill (MCA) 347-468

Best Of Procol Harum (A&M) 344-457

The Byrds—Greatest Hits (Columbia) 342-501

Bad Company—10 From 6 (Atlantic) 341-313

Best Of Kansas (CBS Assoc.) 327-742

The Jackson 5—Greatest Hits (Motown) 327-148

Joe Cocker—Greatest Hits (A&M) 320-911

Elton John—Greatest Hits (MCA) 319-541

Jerry Lee Lewis—18 Original Sun Greatest Hits (Rhino) 369-108

Marvin Gaye—Greatest Hits (Motown) 367-565

Joni Mitchell—Court and Spark (Asylum) 367-102

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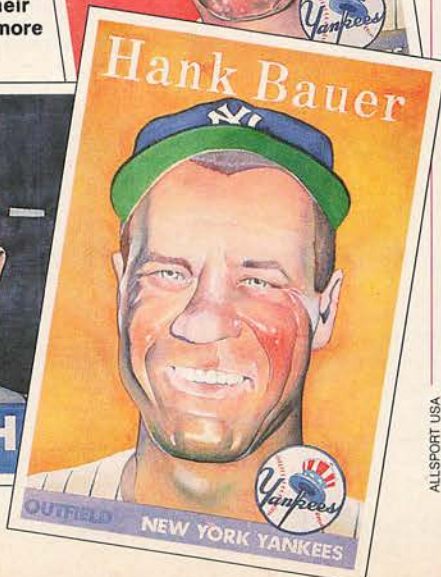
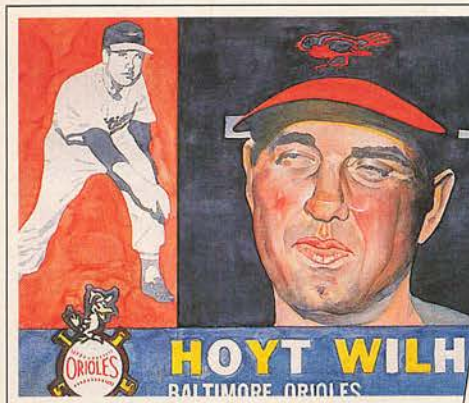
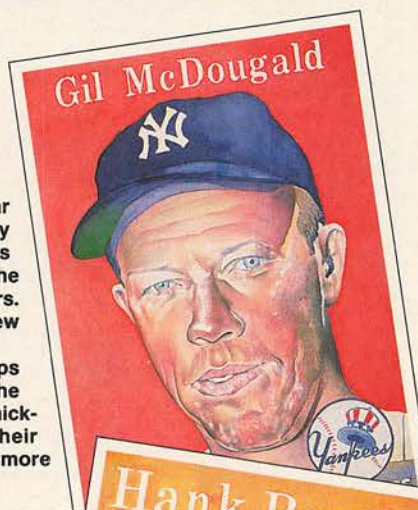


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WHAT, NO BUBBLE GUM?

Robert Myers is a lot like the players he paints. He got his education, as he puts it, at Jack Kerouac University—on the road. He's got a thing about those players from the '50s and '60s, the American heroes of the postwar era. Baseball represented a return to normality after years of conflict and uncertainty, and his oversized, watercolor "baseball cards" evoke the feeling of those memory-misted golden years. The game was simpler then, with no agents, few TV contracts and a disregard for "image."

"The faces of those men had more road maps on them than the players of today," says the self-taught Los Angeles artist. "They were thick-skinned, hard-drinking guys. It shows in their faces. They weren't role models, but they had more personality."



SPORT TALK

A SPORTS FEAST OF A FESTIVAL

Quiz time, sports fans. What do hoopster Michael Jordan, swimmer Matt Biondi, boxer Evander Holyfield (pictured) and gymnast Mary Lou Retton have in common? They're all world-class athletes, right?

Yeah, but guess again.

All of them appeared in the U.S. Olympic Festival, the annual games held to prepare young athletes for the demands of top international competitions. It's the would-be scout's dream, a mecca for the amateur talent touter. Organized by the U.S. Olympic Committee, the Festival brings together many of the best athletes in the country each non-Olympic year.

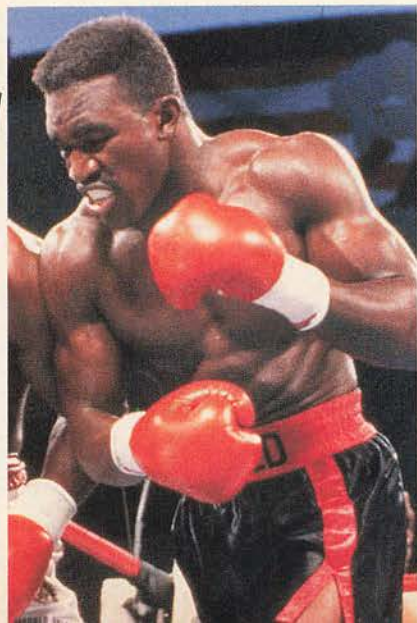
Pro talent recruiters also show up in search of future property. Says Marty Blake, chief scout for the NBA, the Festival is "a great scouting tool to familiarize yourself with upcoming talent."

Held in a different city each summer—July 6-15 in Minneapolis-St. Paul for 1990—the Festival may lack the glitz of the Games, but it does provide an early look at the stars of tomorrow. While some never make it to the Olympics, you may still hear of them later on. Greg LeMond, two-time winner of the Tour de France and America's best cyclist, competed in '79. NBA stars Danny Manning ('85) and Patrick Ewing ('81) made their first national appearances at the Festival.

Last year, in Oklahoma City, Anderson Hunt and Kenny Anderson both played. This year, they played against each other in the Final Four—Hunt for UNLV, Anderson for Georgia Tech.

"The basketball is excellent," says Blake, who's going to miss the Festival this year because of other commitments. "If I had time, I'd go to more." And just to be safe, he's sending someone else to look for the top draft picks of the '90s.

—Terry Mulgannon



Heads turn and necks crane as George Foreman walks into Pappas, one of his favorite eateries in Humble, Texas, the Houston suburb he calls home. Actually, "favorite eateries" is redundant when we're talking about Foreman. He sits down at a table near the window and picks up the lunch menu. The sight of him perusing it rates as one of the great anticipatory moments in sports.

What will he order? Or, more accurately, what won't he order? Is the manager going to have to put out a call for reinforcements in the kitchen? Are we about to witness "*The Texas Steak Knife Massacre*"?

Later, sitting behind the wheel of his Ford Van, he will say, "People always ask me, 'George, how do you celebrate a win if you don't drink?'" He'll reach for an empty Baskin-Robbins sundae cup on the console and laugh loudly. "Here's how," he'll say.

The best part about being a heavyweight is that there's no weight limit to sweat down to. "I'm not gonna worry anymore about fitting the belt around my waist when I win the title," he says, taking off his sunglasses and Texas Tech painter's cap and putting them on the table. "I decided I'm just gonna pin it to the side of my trunks."

For an April fight with Mike Jameson, a bout Foreman won by fourth-round KO, the Reverend weighed a gargantuan 260 pounds. Unlike most fighters, though, he says, "I only eat serious when I train serious." Today, he hasn't trained at all and—alert the media—has decided to eat light. He orders only an appetizer—some fried oysters—then starts to talk about the comeback he launched in 1987. How fitting. Judging by the competition he's faced in the last three years, his second career has been one long series of appetizers, with no main course to be found.

The opponents have ranged from blow-up light heavyweights to cruiserweights to Gerry Cooney. Foreman, who once fought five pugs on one Saturday afternoon back in 1975, could have fought any 10 of his comeback opponents on a Saturday

afternoon and been back in church in time for evening service.

For Foreman, the quality of opposition is a touchy topic. I ask him why, if he is serious about winning back the heavyweight crown he wore in 1973 and '74, he hasn't prepared against a single top-10 contender.

"You know how many top-10 contenders I fought before I knocked out Joe Frazier?" he says. "One. George Chuvalo. It didn't hurt me, did it? You don't need contenders to get you a title shot."

Not as long as the public is buying the palookas, you don't.

By the time he knocked out Cooney in two rounds in January for his 20th win in a row, Foreman was on a public relations roll. Promoter Bob Arum was labeling him the eventual conqueror of Mike Tyson, and a fall shot at the champion seemed inevitable.

But then, in February, Tyson was upset by Buster Douglas. Foreman didn't see the fight. He was preaching that night.

Douglas quickly decided to defend first against top contender Evander Holyfield (that's if Douglas can settle his contract dispute with Don King), with the winner planning to meet Tyson.

Suddenly, Foreman was the odd man out in the heavyweight sweepstakes, a 42-year-old prospect starting at an almost-certain year of waiting before his name was called. If he's had his plans derailed, however, he's not admitting it.

"Douglas and those guys were hoping I'd get discouraged and go away," he says. "But I got plenty of time to wait for them. I took 10 years off from boxing and rested my body. I'll rest it some more. I'm not goin' anywhere."

As though sensing just that, a pretty waitress with blonde hair, green eyes and a name tag that reads "Christy," approaches the table.

"You should try some beignets," she tells Foreman.

"What are they?" he asks.

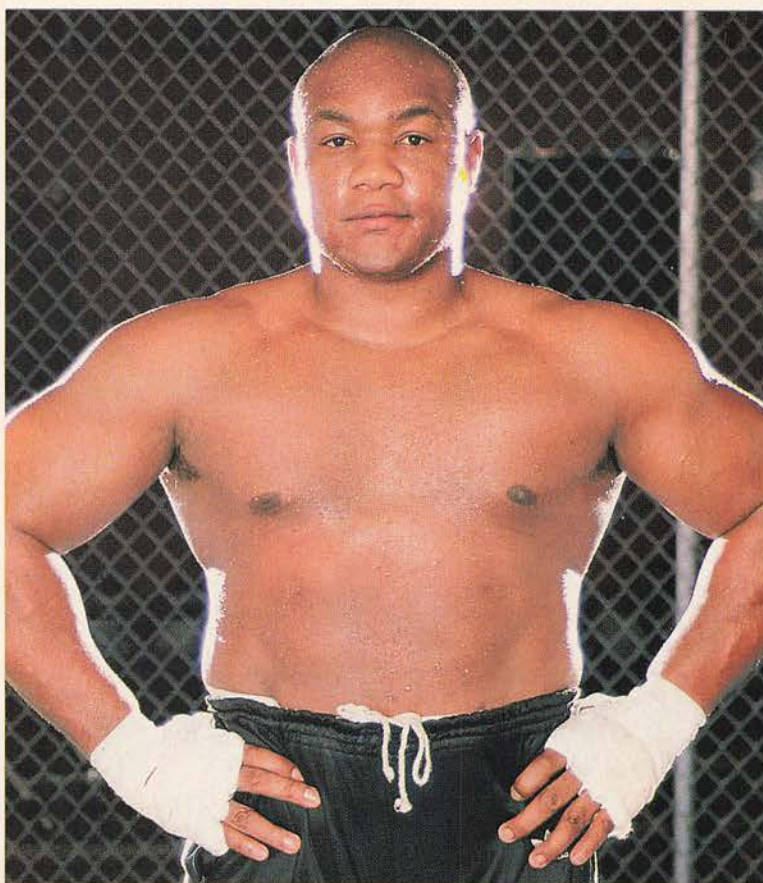
"Fish cakes."

"Alright, bring me some."

Christy leaves, and Foreman leans across

"I'M NOT CONNING ANYONE." / By Jeff Ryan

BEERS WITH... GEORGE FOREMAN



KEN REGAN/CAMERA 5

the table. "See that," he says, amused. "People are always trying to feed me."

And he them. For three years, Foreman has fed the press a steady diet of stories detailing how he can still do the impossible, how he's the best big man in the game. It's the Gospel according to Reverend George.

"I'm sincere when I tell you that nobody out there can best me," he says. "Nobody." A Humble man he may be. A humble man he is not.

Lou Duva, Holyfield's co-trainer, had gone so far as to call Foreman "the world's greatest con man," a pretender who is going to eventually talk and cruiser-bash his way into a title shot he doesn't deserve.

"Duva's gotta say that because Holyfield means nothing to anybody," Foreman says, shooting back. "I'm not conning anyone. The will of the people is mighty, and the people have decided to adopt me and follow me to the championship."

Foreman is indeed a crowd favorite, and that's what makes him such an irony. He is, at once, good and bad for his sport. He is boxing's elder statesman, an entertaining, intelligent, almost lovable character in a sport craving personalities nowadays. At the same time, he is an overweight, middle-aged, circus attraction who risks great physical harm.

Mention the risk factor, though, and Foreman becomes defensive.

"Oh, here we go with *that* again," he says. "More franchise journalism." He takes a bite out of a fish cake and stares at me, awaiting the inevitable set-up. All right, I'll bite.

"What is franchise journalism?"

"You know how you can go to any McDonald's and get the same hamburger? Well, I can read any story about me and see all the same negative things about my age. I'm not too old. Write the truth."

According to Big George, the truth is that today's crop of heavyweights is the joke, and not him. It's they who are an insult to a division that once showcased names such as Ali, Frazier, Norton, and, yes, Foreman.

"Buster Douglas is a journeyman," he says. "The guy suppresses the

heavyweight championship because he's so dull. Kids still walk around asking me, 'You gonna whip the champ?' They don't even know his name. Tyson was a terrible example for kids, but at least

**"Buster Douglas
suppresses the
heavyweight championship
because he's so dull."**

people knew who he was."

As for Tyson...

"He's soft around the chin. As soon as things don't work perfectly for him, he quits. You saw the way he was lookin' for his mouthpiece on the canvas when Douglas got him. He wasn't trying to get back at Douglas. Man, his day is over. The kids even know that. All them Mike Tyson Nintendo games are on the bottom of everybody's toy box now."

Foreman's mouth is in overdrive now, but he saves his harshest words for Holyfield, a former cruiserweight who has used a rigorous weightlifting program to turn himself into the division's body beautiful.

"He's no fighter," Foreman says, tersely. "He's so ignorant, it's dangerous. I don't care how many weights he lifts, you can't make a racehorse out of a mule. And believe me, this boy is no threat in the Kentucky Derby."

Foreman rests his chin in his hand and stares out the window. Pappas sits on the only commercial strip in otherwise woodsy Humble, 18 miles from the youth center he built that bears his name. It was to raise money to finance

that center—combined with boredom and a distaste for the way his body had ballooned up to 320 pounds—that got the Reverend back into the ring.

It's difficult to tell what, exactly, is going on inside that bald head. It's hard to tell if he really believes he has nothing to fear from younger, stronger men, or if he has resigned himself to taking a beating and walking away with a few million dollars in purse money. When he bites his bottom lip, is it to suppress a laugh at the sporting public, or is it to psyche himself for the challenge ahead? Might this guy really be serious?

It seems doubtful, but then again, he does seem so damned relaxed in the ring these days. A tight bundle of tension in his prime, he is now practically nonchalant.

"I'm relaxed because I train myself now, and I know what I can do," he says. "When I was champ, the trainers told me what to do, and I just did it. They put the ingredients in during training, but I didn't know the recipe. Sometimes, I came out a German chocolate cake. Now, I'm the cook, and I always come out like prime rib."

Before we get up to leave, a man in his forties and his son approach the table with a piece of paper. Foreman signs it, shakes the father's hand and smiles. "See that gray stuff on his chin?" he says. "That gives him a certain amount of pride in me."

As we head for the door a few moments later, Foreman is still smiling.

"You know I'm happening, or you wouldn't be here," he tells me. "When I was a kid, and the street cleaner came by the house, nobody came outside. But

when the fire truck went by, everyone came out and chased it, even if they were in their night clothes or had rollers in their hair. Well, I'm a fire truck, and you're all chasin' me because you know there's a fire ahead of me somewhere."

Of that, there is no doubt. The only question is, when Big George gets there, will he fan the flames, douse the blaze, or just throw a couple of steaks on the grill? ★

Jeff Ryan is managing editor of *KO* and *The Ring*.



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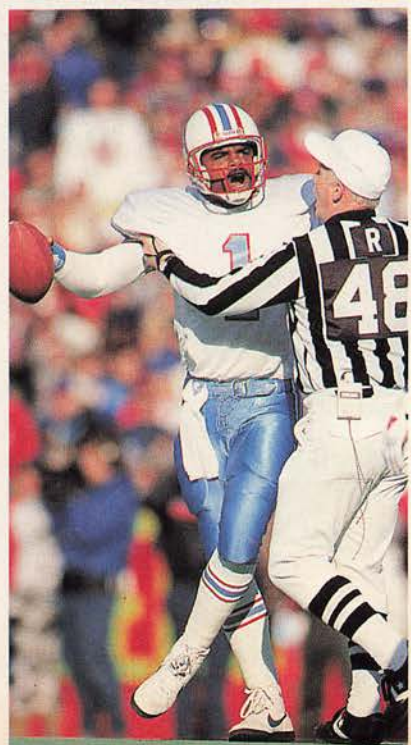
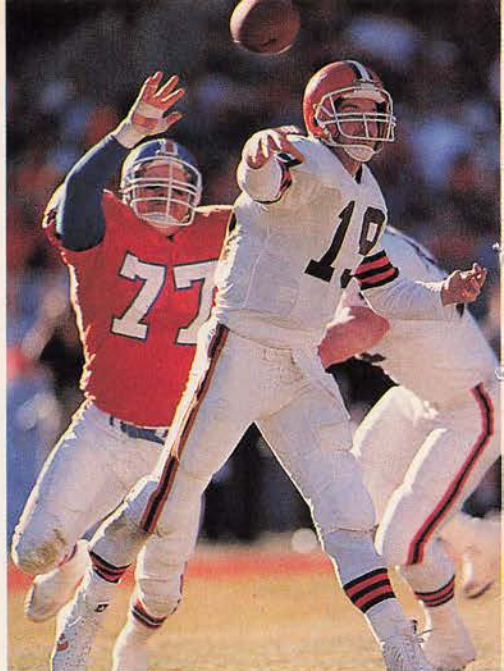
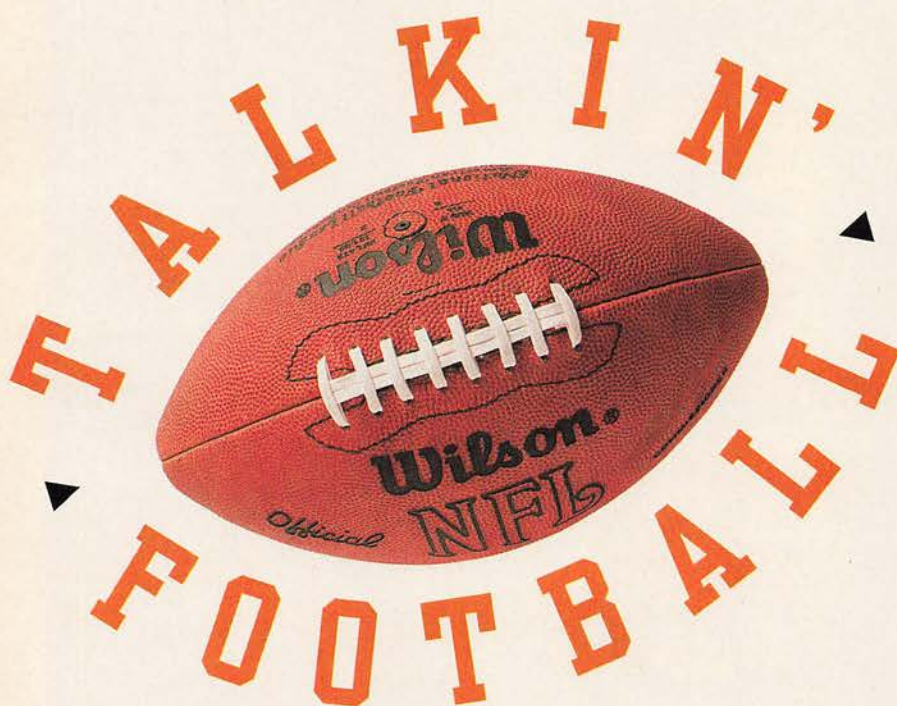


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It's pad-pounding time again. Time to start talking about that transition from the cerebral to the brutal, from the paced pleasure of baseball to the frenzied, physical spurts of football. We've been doing some talking ourselves about the new season.

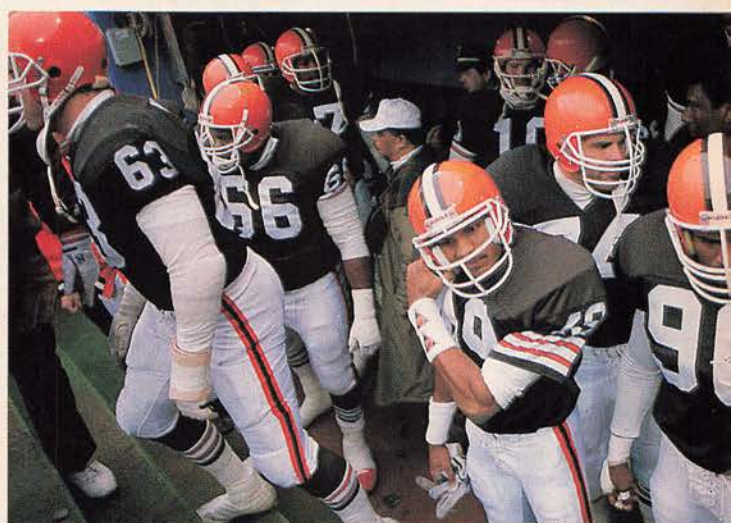
Lots of talking. Talking about the new rushing kings of the NFL—Christian Okoye and Barry Sanders. Talking about the fate of the Denver Broncos and the spotty pro careers of all those great college quarterbacks out of BYU. Talking about the uncertain lot of placekickers and the bizarre superstitions that otherwise rational pros use to attract victories.



And we've been talking about college football around the country, wondering which conference shines brightest on the gridiron. Mostly, we've been talking about the current crop of pro football stars, predicting who'll turn in stellar seasons in 1990.

Then we put our talk into action. What follows is a large slice of SPORT insight into the upcoming football season, with some unabashed analysis of the best players, the best conferences and the subtler dramas that will make up another sizzling season of football.

ILLUSTRATIONS: KEVIN CONRAN
 BERNIE KOSAR BY SCOTT CUNNINGHAM, BO JACKSON BY MIKE POWELL/ALLSPORT USA, JOHN STEPHENS BY WILL HART, CLEVELAND BROWNS BY BRYAN YABLONSKY, JOJO TOWNSELL BY WILL HART, FANS BY CHARLES BERNHARDT/ALLSPORT USA, GIANTS HELMET BY MITCHELL B. REIBEL/SPORTSCHROME, ROGER CRAIG BY TOM DIPACE, WARREN MOON BY MITCHELL B. REIBEL/SPORTSCHROME, CHEERLEADER BY IRA GABRIEL





San Francisco 55, Denver 10. Heinz 57, Denver 10. Speed limit 65, Denver 10. Two of those are jokes. The other was last January's Super Bowl score. It's also the starting point for a thousand and one theories on why the Denver Broncos can't win the big one. We've heard a lot of amateur analysis concerning Denver's woes. We decided we wanted to hear a professional one. So we asked Dr. Saul Miller, a sport psychologist who has worked with the Rams, Mets, Dodgers, Canucks and Los Angeles Kings, to put Elway and company on the couch. Here's his prognosis.

Word association test: Ask 100 people what word first springs to mind when you say "Denver Broncos" or "John Elway." Prediction: At least two thirds of them will respond with something like "losers" or "choke."

Remarkable, isn't it? We're talking about a team that's won the AFC championship three out of the last four years. And we're talking about a quarterback with one of the best regular-season records in the NFL. These guys are winners with a reputation as losers.

The reason for that, of course, is the Broncos' embarrassing and public trouncings in recent Super Bowls. But what's important isn't public perception but rather the impact of repeated Super Bowl failure on the psyche of the Broncos themselves. Will it affect their attitude as they prepare for still another AFC title? And, if they get to the big game again this time, will they use the experience of

the past to rise to the occasion, or will they again succumb to the pressure?

The answers have to do with conditioning. Not the physical conditioning you find in the weight room, but the kind of involuntary conditioned emotional response that Pavlov discovered with his dogs. You've heard of it: Ring a bell before each time you give a dog a piece of meat, and after a while, the dog will salivate at the ring of the bell.

But the famous Russian physiologist also noted the flip side. Give the dogs an electric shock after each ring of the bell, and they'll learn to tense up at the mere sound of the bell.

For the Broncos, the neutral stimulus is not a bell but the Super Bowl. The negative stimulus is not an electric shock but thrashings they keep receiving when they play the big game. Three embarrassing, one-sided losses in four years, with the whole world watching, can be an especially powerful form of negative conditioning.

After their Super Bowl loss to the Giants following the 1986 season, the team's mindset remained positive. Actually, their expectation grew. But it was somewhere during the second and third quarters of Super Bowl XXII, when the Redskins humiliated Denver, that some powerful conditioning took place... and the public image of the Broncos as losers and chokes was born.

The cumulative effect of back-to-back defeats in the biggest game sent the Broncos crashing down. The next season started with a number of players, including Elway, talking about burnout. The Broncos had a disappointing 8-8 season.

Denver head coach

Dan Reeves, who suggests you've got to be something of a psychologist to be a successful NFL coach, knew he had to shift team consciousness to be competitive in 1989. He made a number of moves. He changed 11 of his starters (including the placekicker). The fusion of new faces and experienced veterans, both with things to prove, revitalized the team and the dream. The Broncos were back.

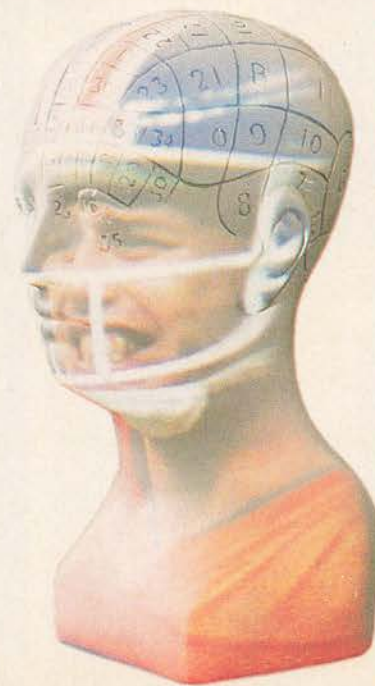
Until they suffered the worst defeat in Super Bowl history. Elway and a few of his teammates had clearly developed a negative conditioned response.

Here's my prognosis. In dealing with stress and difficulty, you either use it or it'll use you. And it appears that psychologist Reeves has his team thinking positively. There's no talk of burnout. I haven't seen or heard anything that would inhibit the Broncos from getting off to another good start in 1990.

The problems might come if they make it to the Super Bowl again. As a rule, people respond under pressure the way they responded to the same pressure in the past. With one more powerful negative-conditioning session under their belt (last year's massacre), the probability is Denver will play like

A SHRINK'S EYE VIEW OF THE DENVER BRONCOS

By Dr. Saul Miller



Pavlov's dogs once again.

Some pressure is essential for high-level performance; too much is counterproductive. The Super Bowl is loaded with pressure to start with. For the Broncos, you have to add in flashbacks of their embarrassing big-game losses, the feeling that they've got something to prove and a lot of negative self-talk ("we can't let it happen again" or "we mustn't choke"). The pressure becomes too much.

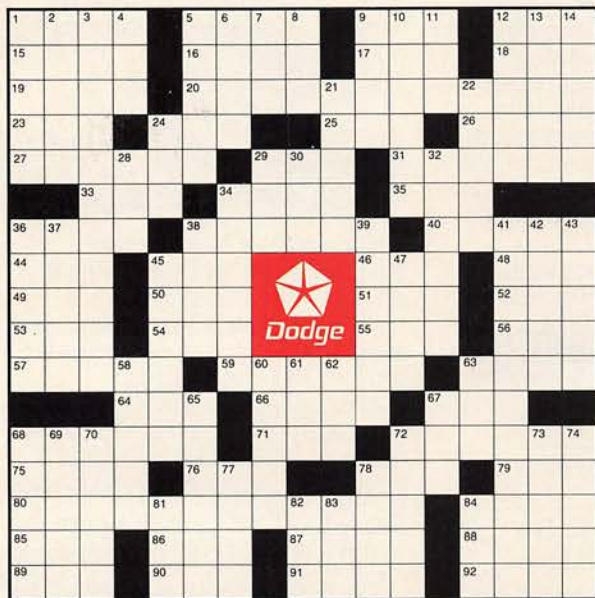
Solutions? The obvious antidote to failure is success. A victory in Super Bowl XXV and all is forgiven. Elway will be seen as a big-game quarterback; the pain of the past will be forgotten; and the perception of the Broncos as chokes will fade. ★

CHARLIE FATHBURN

The Dodge SPORT word Puzzle

By Stanley Newman

"THEY MANAGED."



Puzzle answers on page 85

Across

1. Non-boxing Ali
5. Wrestling-match schedule
9. _____ Na Na
12. Rode the bench
15. Do magazine work
16. Part of AFC: Abbr.
17. Slangy sound of a punch's impact
18. Apple or mincemeat
19. A lot of nerve
20. He managed three different clubs to pennants: 2 wds.
23. _____ Can Boyd
24. Crenshaw of the PGA
25. Hamill's surface
26. Training-table regimen
27. Rookie's audition
29. Pro golfer Nagle
31. Bleachers, for instance
33. Lee or Carlos
34. Baseball stitching
35. Wood used to make bats
36. Lasting impression
38. He was known as Little Napoleon
40. Half nelson, arm lock, etc.
44. Parallel to the ground: Abbr.
45. "_____ darn tootin' "
46. Bush was one in the 1940s
48. Sabers' stat
49. Fenway Park clock setting: Abbr.
50. Uniform number of 3 Down
51. Scuba tank contents
52. Snack for Secretariat
53. Driving-home stat
54. Kind of poem
55. "The _____" (Phillies' stadium nickname)
56. Be left on base
57. Talking bird
59. Barely defeated
63. Cotton is their coach
64. _____ Angeles Rams
66. _____ rifle (big-game gun)
67. Botch the birdie?
68. Gait at Pimlico
71. _____ the ball (get tackled, as a QB)
72. Player-manager at 33: 2 wds.
75. Home of the Bobcats
76. Caught _____ rundown: 2 wds.
78. Early player-manager Anson
79. Overt's rival
80. Dodgers Hall of Fame manager: 2 wds.
84. Horse-stopping shout
85. Vanderbilt won it in '90
86. Actress Ullmann
87. Get, as a win
88. At the _____ (managing)
89. Last-year college players: Abbr.
90. Razorbacks' home?
91. No nickname for William Perry
92. Metallic rocks

Down

1. Sired, Bible-style
2. Sixties infielder Jerry
3. He managed four different clubs to division titles: 2 wds.
4. A, as in ACC: Abbr.
5. West Point footballer
6. Former Ugandan dictator
7. _____ room (pool table's locale)
8. Gooden's nickname: 2 wds.
9. _____-and-span
10. _____ putt (finishes, in golf): 2 wds.
11. A shoemaker's tool
12. Seve Ballesteros' homeland
13. Got ready to shoot
14. Non-sports finals
21. 1960 Olympics sprinter Rudolph
22. Big Sky Conference team
24. _____ the rack (bet every combination)
28. Only one _____ in the water.
29. Beer barrel
30. Corn portion
32. Ballpark souvenir: 2 wds.
34. Short pass
36. Fifties catcher Lollar
37. Sitcom star once a Temple U. athlete
38. On the _____ (recuperating)
39. Last manager to win three straight pennants
41. He said, "Nice guys finish last"
42. Deprive of strength
43. Satisfies fully
45. Yogi's favorite drink
47. Rested, as a golf ball
58. Parcel out
60. Perfect
61. Shooter's ammo
62. Household animal
63. Bando or Maglie
65. "THE NEW _____ OF DODGE"
67. Forties featherweight champ Willie
68. Formal dresses
69. Win by _____ (barely beat): 2 wds.
70. Happy songs
72. Sanguillen or Trillo
73. Sixties Reds pitcher Jim O'
74. League members
77. The Middles
78. Can of _____ (easily caught fly)
81. Letters after kays
82. Tennis-match unit
83. Skating star Babilonia
84. Famous first baseman



DODGE SHADOW ES

Equipped with four-wheel disc brakes and 15" cast aluminum wheels, and twin balance-shaft engine technology like the Porsche 944, this Shadow is one upwardly mobile automobile. But then, just because it's an economy car doesn't mean it has to act like one.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN A GOOD BASKETBALL SHOE.



Since 1974, The Athlete's Foot has been helping serious athletes choose the right shoe. If you take your basketball seriously, this guide will help you select yours.

A shoe that will let you play in comfort. One that may help prevent foot and leg injuries. One that could even save you money in the long run.

So read on. The way we figure it, better you learn about basketball shoes in a crash course here.

Then learn about them while crashing the boards.

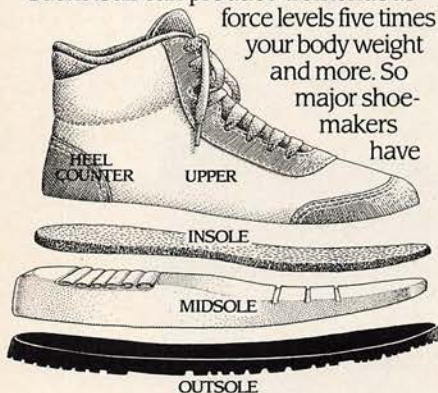
DURABILITY. YOU THINK YOU TAKE A BEATING DOWN LOW.

The constant pounding and cutting in basketball requires a durable outsole. Performance basketball shoes have outsoles composed of rubber and designed for support and wearability.

How many times have you had opponents come down on your feet under the boards? Look for a tough leather upper with good support features. Most major manufacturers have this area well covered.

CUSHIONING. IT COULD ADD YEARS TO YOUR GAME.

The jumping and quick stops in basketball can produce tremendous force levels five times your body weight and more. So major shoe-makers have



devoted a lot of attention to cushioning technology.

The midsole is one of the most important parts of the shoe for providing cushioning. Midsoles composed of compression molded ethyl vinyl acetate (EVA), or polyurethane

work best because of their light weight and cushioning properties.

Midsole design, however, is where manufacturers have made great strides in the last few years. Converse's wave midsole is a good example.

The Converse midsole has an added feature going for it. Though the wave midsole uses special material to help improve resiliency, Converse also places a polymer insert in the midsole to help keep it from breaking down during long play and extended use. You'll find the wave midsole and insert in Converse's entire line including their Magic® shoes.

Another part of the shoe that helps cushion your feet is the removable

CONVERSE®

insole. It's also the first to break down. So we recommend you replace the insole halfway through the life of your shoe.

STABILITY. TAKE ALL THE SUPPORT YOU CAN GET.

A few years ago, basketball shoe technology took a step forward when manufacturers introduced footframes. Though they can be different from shoe to shoe, footframes are polymer units that attach the midsole to the upper and run along the side of the shoe.

There are other features to look for that make a shoe more stable. A firm, resistant heel counter will minimize rearfoot motion. For added support during quick stops and starts, look for rear-quarter stability straps with plastic molded lace eyelets.

And unless you're a devout low-top guy, you might look at high-tops. Converse's high-top design, for example, will provide additional ankle support you need in the paint.

FIT. HOW DO YOU KNOW?

To determine the proper shoe length, use the "rule of thumb." There should be a space the width of your thumbnail (not the sales-

person's) between the end of the toebox and the tip of your longest toe on your longer foot. Make sure you can freely wiggle your toes. The heel should be snug, but not tight.



If you play for long periods of time, remember that your feet will elongate and spread and can expand up to a half size. Which means a too tight shoe in the store can be a killer on the court.

Above all else, get your foot remeasured every time you buy new shoes. Your size can actually change as a result of the aging process and injuries.

THE WEARTEST CENTER KEEPS US IN STEP WITH BASKETBALL SHOES.

The Athlete's Foot is the only retailer in the country with its own independent facility like the

WearTest Center.

Located on the campus of North Central College in Naperville, Illinois, the center evaluates the

major manufacturers' basketball shoes for flexibility, durability, shock absorption and motion control. The staff there then passes the information

along to our stores with the latest updates on shoe technology and recent sports medicine findings.

So next time you need a new pair of basketball shoes from Converse — you have a choice.

You can go to any of a dozen mainstream-oriented stores you'll find on just about any corner.

Or you can go to the athlete-oriented store you'll find on the next page.



WHERE TO LOOK FOR A GOOD BASKETBALL SHOE.



NOBODY KNOWS THE ATHLETE'S FOOT LIKE THE ATHLETE'S FOOT.



They were college football's mad bombers. Guys who'd shred opposing defenses. Guys who'd drive defensive coordinators batty. Guys who'd pile up nation-leading statistics.

Guys destined for National Football League stardom?

Nope. The men who rolled off the quarterback assembly line at Brigham Young University, throwing TD bomb after TD bomb, mostly bombed out in the pros.

Remember Virgil Carter? Gary Sheide? Gifford Nielsen? Marc Wilson? Robbie Bosco? The teams who drafted them would prefer not to.

Sure, BYU alums have had some success in the NFL. Steve Young is the league's most glamorous backup at San Francisco, but he's lost in Joe Montana's formidable shadow. Jim McMahon had those few good years in Chicago, but what's he done lately besides caddy for Billy Joe Toliver in San Diego, blow his nose at reporters and ultimately join other celebrated has-beens on the league's waiver wire? Even Marc Wilson crafted a few brilliant games for the Raiders before moving on... but, hey, we're grasping at straws here.

From college bombers to NFL bummers, here's a roll call of BYU busts:

Carter, BYU's quarterback from 1964 to '66, led the NFL in passing percentage (62.2) when he was with Cincinnati in 1971, but he did nothing else in his brief tenure in the pros.

Sheide, the NCAA's No. 2-ranked passer two successive years (1973-74), was drafted by the Bengals, but he never threw an NFL pass.

Nielsen, college football's

No. 4 passer in 1976 with 3,192 yards and 29 TD's, played for the Oilers from '78 to '83, but will probably be remembered more for his sportscasting in Houston than for his quarterbacking.

Wilson threw for 7,637 yards and 61 touchdowns at BYU from '77 to '79. After the Raiders drafted him in the first round, he got himself booed out of Los Angeles, released by Seattle and spurned by Green Bay. Now he's trying to stick in New England.

After McMahon and Young, there was Bosco, who was drafted by the

LaVell Edwards, the architect of the Cougars passing machine, and you'll hear myriad reasons.

Carter: "Going from a college where coaches believe in you and give you the authority to call your own plays to a dictated system where all you do is drop back, read and throw didn't fit my style of play."

Edwards on Sheide: "He never even wanted to play in the NFL."

Nielsen: "At BYU, we threw the ball from the time we stepped on the field in practice until the sun went down. Every once in a while,

we'd run an inside trap or sweep, but our philosophy was to pass—and pass some more. When I came to Houston, they ran the "I" and had Earl Campbell. Everything revolved around Earl and the running game."

Edwards on Bosco: "Robbie would have been as successful as Jim McMahon if he didn't injure his arm."

The latest in this legacy of BYU bombers is junior Ty Detmer, who had a year for the ages in 1989, throwing for 4,560 yards—only 11 yards shy of McMahon's national record, which was surpassed last season by Andre Ware's 4,699 yards.

"He's a great one," Edwards says of Detmer.

In college any way. We'll wait and see about the NFL. ★

THEY THREW 'EM
IN COLLEGE; THEY
BECAME 'EM IN

THE
BYU PROS
BOMBS

By Rick Weinberg

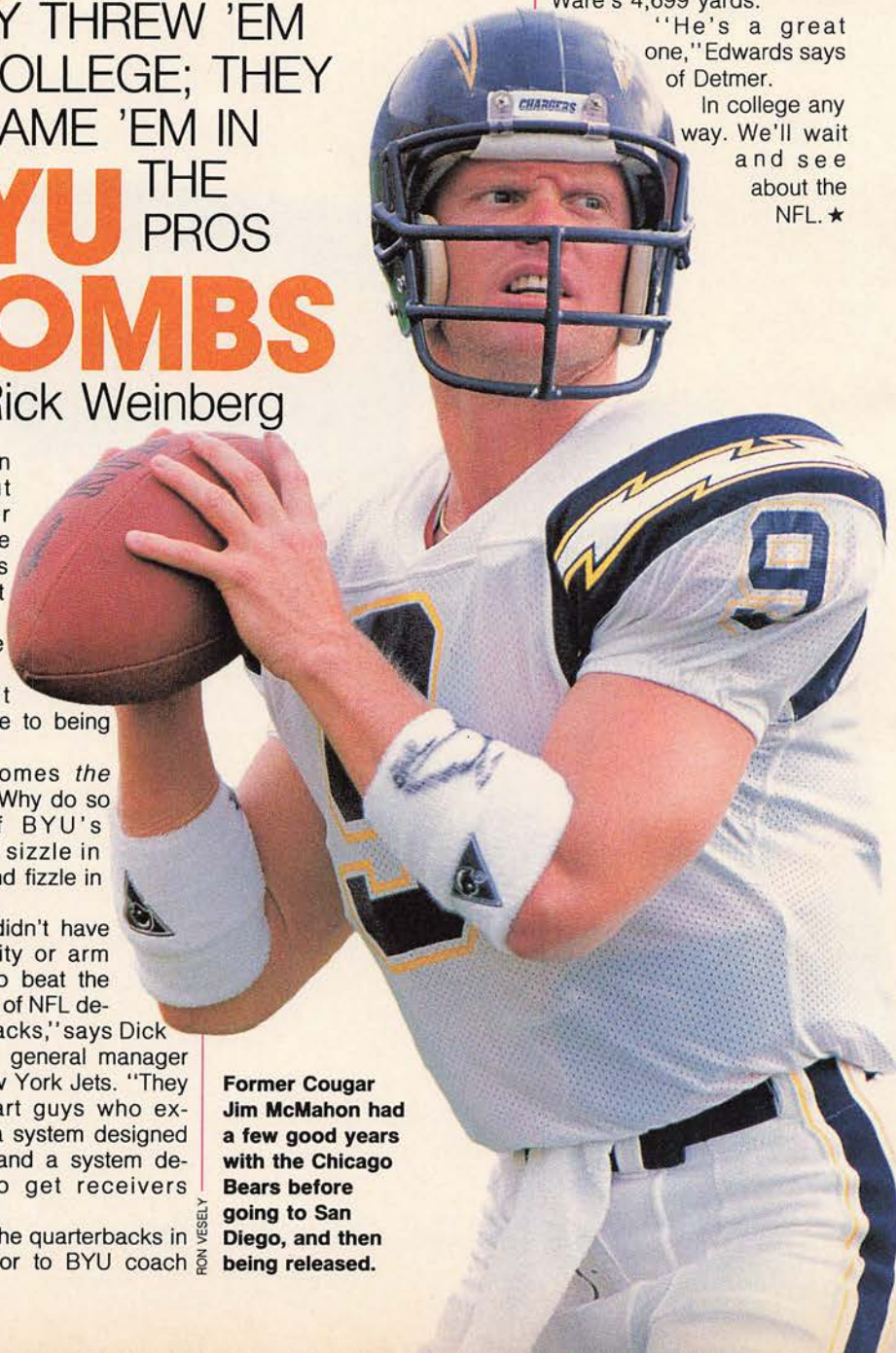
Packers in 1986 but never made the club, this coming at a time when the Packers wasn't even close to being back.

Now comes the question. Why do so many of BYU's bombers sizzle in college and fizzle in the pros?

"They didn't have the velocity or arm strength to beat the quickness of NFL defensive backs," says Dick Steinberg, general manager of the New York Jets. "They were smart guys who excelled in a system designed for them and a system designed to get receivers open."

Talk to the quarterbacks in question, or to BYU coach

Former Cougar Jim McMahon had a few good years with the Chicago Bears before going to San Diego, and then being released.



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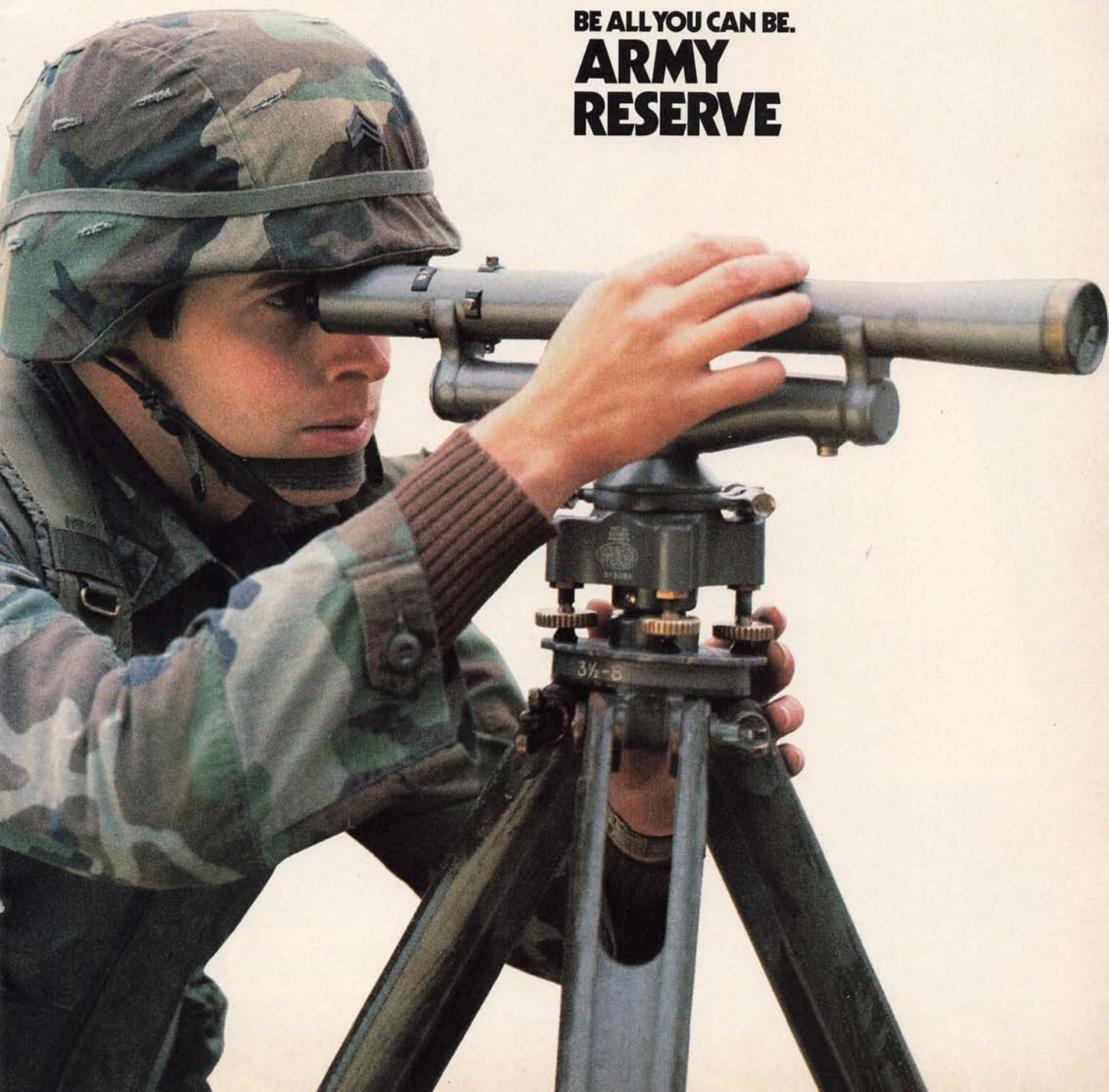
Think about it.

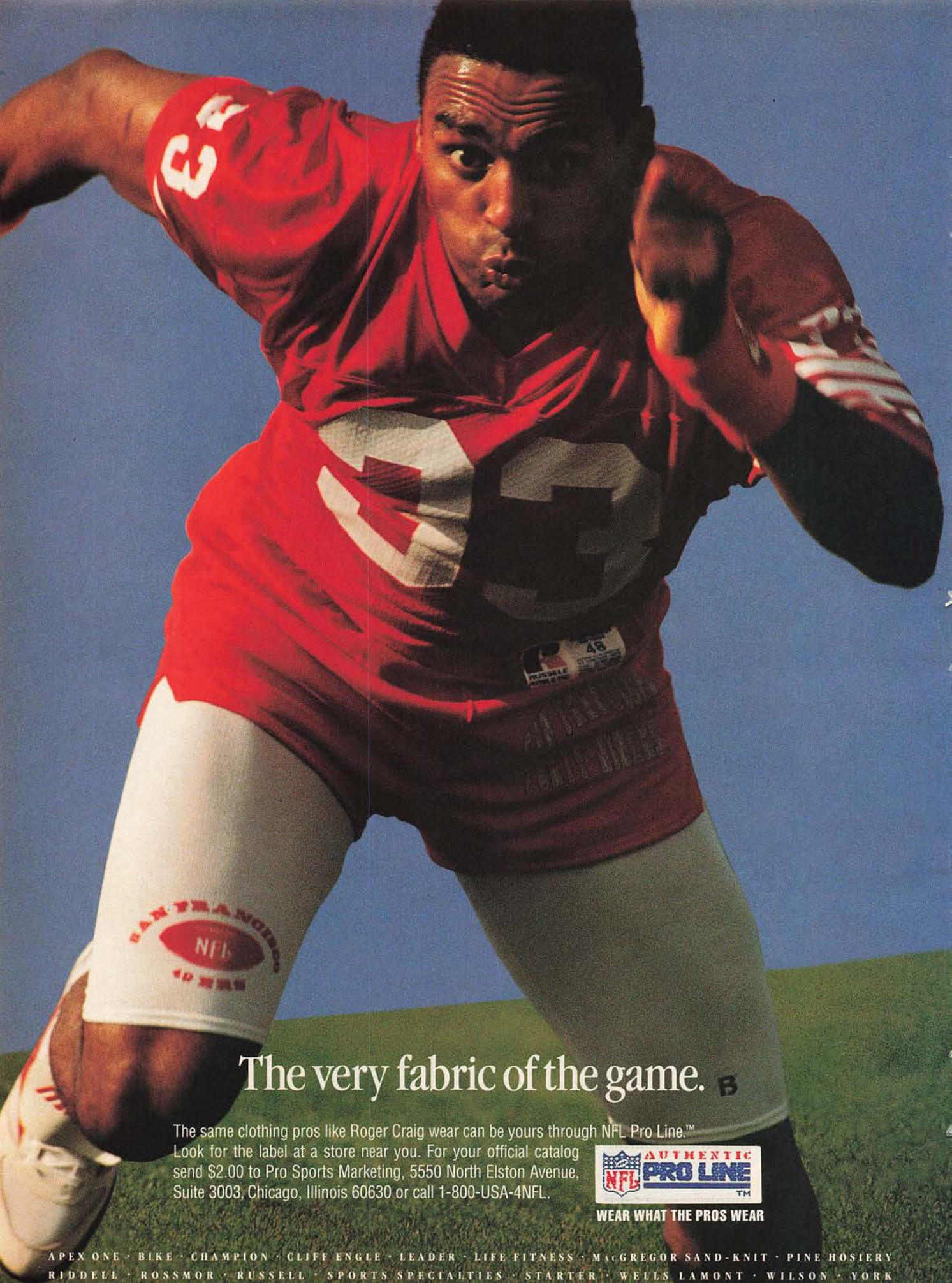
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They're the vagabond virtuosos of the NFL. They come off the bench half-a-dozen times a game, and you can measure their playing time in a few blinks of the eye. Their job stability compares to that of, say, a kamikaze pilot. The position is the most pressure-ridden in the game. Few other players accrue as many points. But those at the foot of the class in the NFL are granted just a few mistakes before they're out on their butts.

And they're lonely.

And coaches don't understand them.

Pity the poor placekicker.

Take New Orleans' Morten Andersen, one of the Saints' most popular players and a top kicker in the NFL since 1982. After a couple of bad games early in the season, fans were screaming for his head. It was *his* fault that the Saints' hopes were slipping.

Placekicking is not a comfortable job.

"When you talk pressure," says Green Bay's special teams coach Howard Tippet, "it's the toughest position in pro sports. Half of the games in the NFL are decided by seven points or less. A placekicker can win it or lose it; there are few positions on a team like that. And when a guy's out of sync, there are a lot of people to try out."

Or, in plain-speak, when a guy's out of sync, he's out of work. Coaches use firing as a motivational tool—and even kickers admit that it works. No wonder they seem to wander from team to team.

Look at Luis Zendejas and Roger Ruzek. Zendejas began the '89 season at Philadelphia, Ruzek in Dallas.

Both suffered midseason slumps. Both were banished. Zendejas finished the season at Dallas, Ruzek at Philadelphia.

And you know what? Both thrived in their new environments.

According to Al Roberts, who coaches special teams for the Eagles, there's method to that apparent madness.

"If a guy slows down," he says, "he gets fired. He's in shock, goes without a paycheck for a couple of weeks. Then another team picks him up. You get a guy who's

scared; he's paying attention for three or four weeks, has a hot streak."

That, simply, sums up the Zendejas/Ruzek exchange.

"Ruzek's a great athlete," says Roberts. "We think Dallas made a mistake letting him go. But they probably think we made a mistake with Zendejas."

Mistake or not, Roberts' counterpart at Dallas, Alan Lowry, agrees with the efficacy of the de facto trade. "They wanted to prove

dependable one.

"Kicking is the kind of thing where coaches think you're hot or you're not," says Paul McFadden, who's made the rounds the last couple of years. Placekicker for the Eagles from '84 to '87, he was with Atlanta last year and the New York Giants the year before. "The coach needs a gut feeling of trust. If he loses that confidence in you, it's hard to get back."

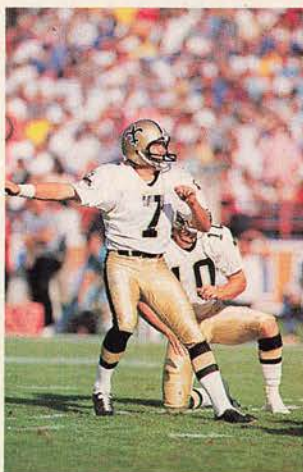
Even harder to retrieve for

TRAVELING TOES

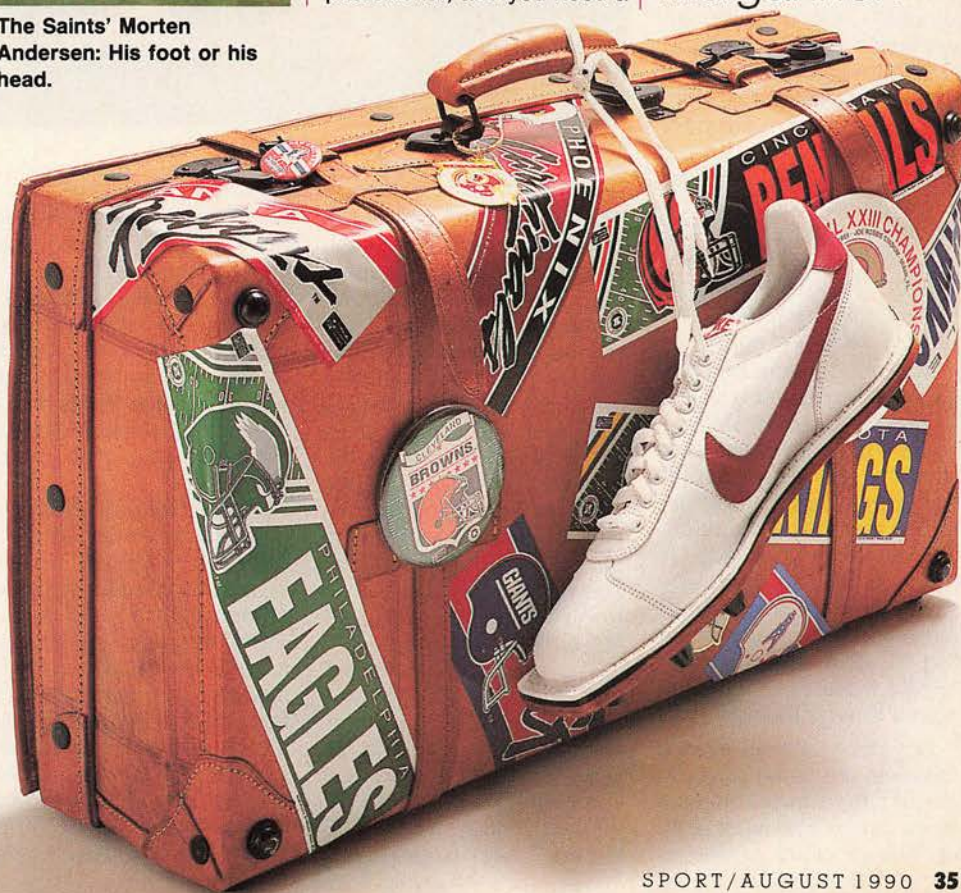
THERE'S A REASON WHY PLACEKICKERS GET KICKED ALL OVER THE NFL/By Terry Mulgannon

themselves again," he says. "It helped them, really."

Roberts compares placekickers to batting stars who have a slump—same general situation, with one big exception. You can bench the batter indefinitely and give him a chance to come around. But there's only one slot on the roster for a placekicker, and you need a



The Saints' Morten Andersen: His foot or his head.



a placekicker is confidence in himself once it slips. He misses one sure thing, the doubts seep into his consciousness. He thinks too much about kicking the next time around, and it's that much more difficult to put the ball through the uprights. And God help him if he misses another gimme too soon.

"My first two years in Philadelphia were great," McFadden says. "I was hitting good; I felt aggressive, positive. My last two years were off. When you miss a couple of kicks, newspapers start asking people around you what's wrong. You become tentative; things snowball on you. I was walking into the locker room, and I could see the other players looking at me."

"Coach [Buddy] Ryan stuck by me. But I'd dug such a deep hole, I couldn't climb out. Then I went to New York, and I was on the top of the world again."

Last year, McFadden went to Atlanta, looking forward to an opportunity to work with then-head coach Marion Campbell, who he says understands kickers. He got sidelined with injuries for the last six games of the season, and now, with the team under the tutelage of new coach Jerry Glanville, he has to try to get the job back from replacement Greg Davis, who had the job in '88. It's like that for placekickers sometimes—here today, gone tomorrow, back next week.

Al Roberts says complacency often works against an established placekicker—he gets too comfortable and forgets fundamentals. Sometimes they listen to too many people for advice. "Zendejas was talking to his relatives all the time," he says; tips from members of the placekicking family confused Zendejas' style. "Some kickers listen to everyone. It hurts them."

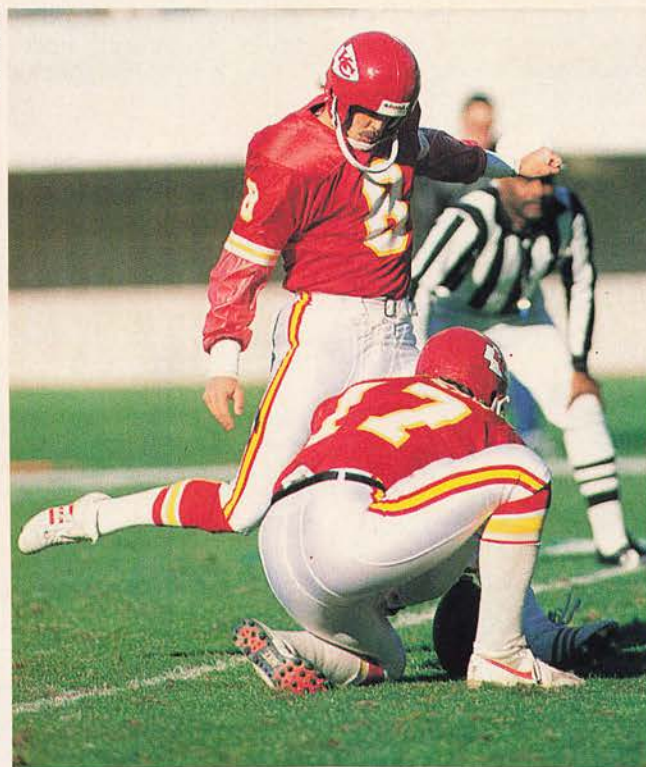
But Roberts says kicking mistakes are much easier to correct than psychological flaws; when the latter crop up and a kicker seems to

choke, it's time to start looking for a new man.

Buddy Ryan made himself a rare exception when he stuck with McFadden through two faltering years; most coaches aren't that tolerant, since they tend to think of placekickers as interchangeable—"like Kleenex," says McFadden. The fact is, most placekickers

Tippett. "They all kicked well; we could've put their names in a sack. It comes down to guys who handle the pressure."

Green Bay finally settled on Chris Jacke for the '89 season. Good choice; he was named to all-rookie teams by most football publications. "We went through four or five guys before



The Chiefs' Nick Lowery: Home at last.

are as good as any other when it comes to kicking the ball, and that goes for rookies, free agents, incumbents. No, the physical demands of kicking a football through the goal posts aren't that big a deal for the guys who do it for a living. It's getting it right when the game's on the line, 60,000 fans are screaming, a phalanx of linebackers want to play steamroller, and you know that you have just a few seconds to score. Or maybe lose your job.

The pressure cracks the placekicker's psyche, and overcoming it is the litmus test. And the only way to know for sure is to get a man in a game.

"Last year, we worked 20 kickers," says Green Bay's

him," says Tippett. "He's a big reason we were successful last year."

It's especially tough for rookies. To succeed, they need an ability to perform under pressure, and the only way to develop that is during the game, when it counts. Catch on quick, or you're gone.

"With a lot of positions, a guy can come along slowly," says the Cowboys' Lowry. "A placekicker has got to be on now."

Rookies start out playing musical teams. After getting tried out and dumped for a few years, they develop the psychological skills they need to deliver in the crunch. "It's 90 percent mental in this league," Tippett says of placekickers.

"When guys improve, it's not in their kicking technique, it's in handling the pressure. As they learn to deal with it, they stick to a team."

He cites the Chiefs' Nick Lowery—five teams in a year-and-a-half. For two months in '79, he banged around like a pinball: Signed by the Bengals July 2, released on August 13; signed by the Redskins the 18th, released on the 20th; re-signed by the Redskins the 25th, released on the 27th. The Chiefs picked him up in February 1980, and he's been there ever since. "He's been the premier kicker in the league," says Tippett.

And there you have the flip side of the placekicker's plight—incumbency. If he can land a berth and show consistency over time, it can be his indefinitely. Unless an incumbent blows it consistently for a protracted period, the team will keep him no matter how many seemingly more-talented aspiring usurpers come along. There's no way of knowing if the new guy will be as good in the game as on the practice field.

Even so, incumbency is no picnic. Rafael Septien had the job at Dallas for nine years—from 1978 through '86—posting one of the best playoff records in the NFL. According to him, you're always on your own.

"It's a lonesome job," he says. "You're part of the team, but you don't belong. You go to meetings with one other guy—the punter. Sometimes you don't even have a special teams coach. You're isolated. At practice, you do your thing first and then go sit down while the rest of the team works out together."

"Coaches don't understand you. You don't want to get hurt, because you're always playing in a critical situation. But coaches call us prima donnas. If you do get hurt, there's no backup, and they get another guy."

Pity the poor placekicker. It's a tough job, but someone's gotta do it. ★



Want to know who were the best players in pro football last year? Look it up in a stat book. Want to know who'll be the toughest in 1990? Read on.

We pored over miles of game film, conferred with coaches, consulted with scouts, grilled GMs and polled countless players to come up with a compilation of players who we project will be the best in the upcoming year.

Forget last year. These are the guys you'll be talking about in January.

And don't look for pretty boys on our lists (10 at each position except tight end, where we found eight in a more limited field). Big contracts, media exposure and reputations built by blow-dried broadcasters mean nothing in our ratings.

You can also forget about the mythical new era of "finesse" and "style." These lists prove

just how many blood-and-guts football players are still out there. We took the typical criteria—

HERE ARE
THE BEST
PLAYERS
IN PRO
FOOTBALL,
POSITION
BY POSITION

THE NFL'S SUPER 78

By J.
David
Miller

height, weight, 40-yard-dash times—and threw them in the trash. Those who made our list qualify for better reasons: toughness, attitude, production. We like players who know how to hunt, chase, hit and win.

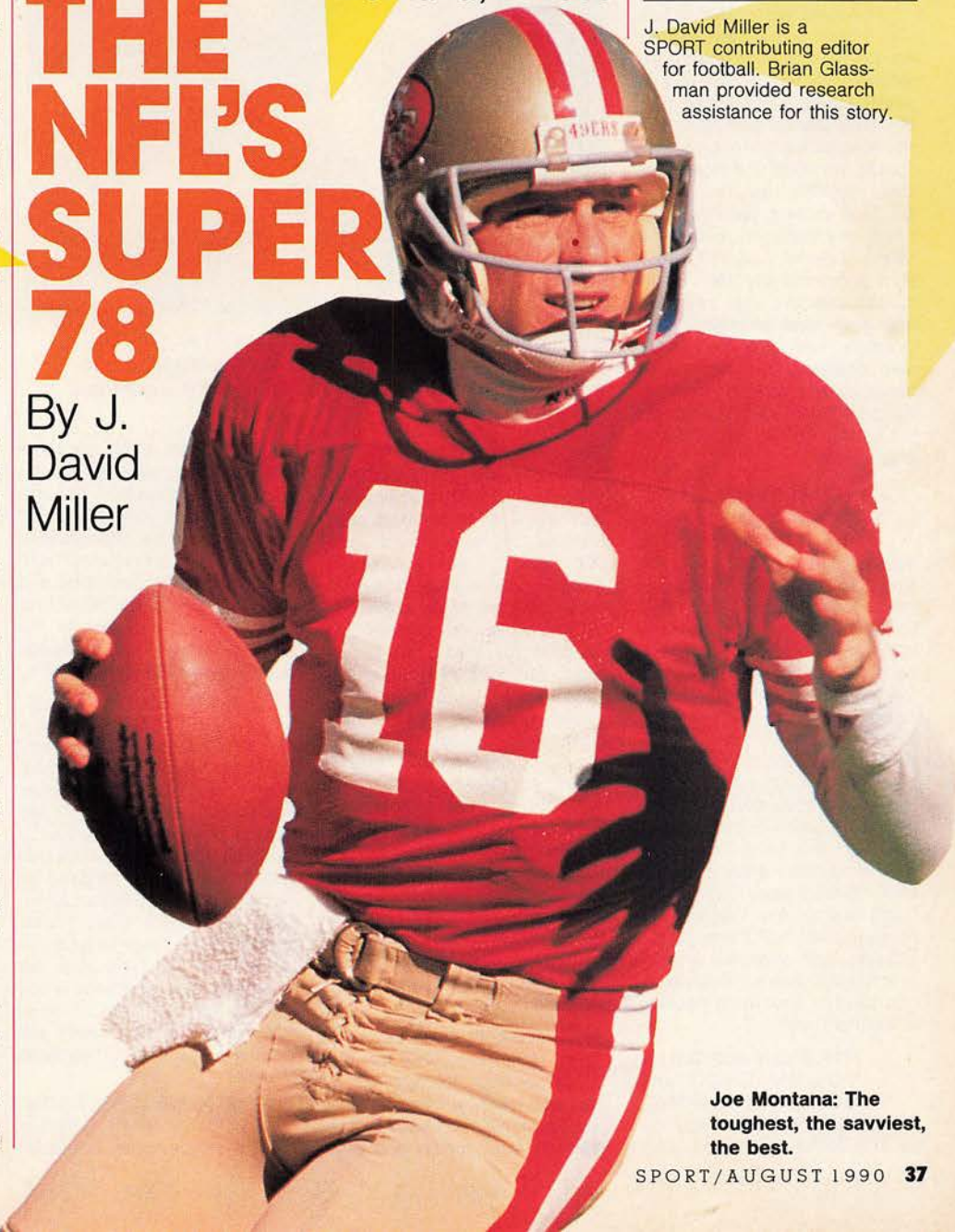
Give us a Clay Matthews, who lives for the toe-tingling rush of a head-on collision. Or a Joe Montana, whose

nose for winning has raised the art of quarterbacking to a new level.

New Atlanta head coach Jerry Glanville was once asked what he'd do if he weren't coaching football. "Life without football," Glanville said, "simply isn't life."

Here are 78 players who feel the same way.

J. David Miller is a SPORT contributing editor for football. Brian Glassman provided research assistance for this story.



Joe Montana: The toughest, the savviest, the best.

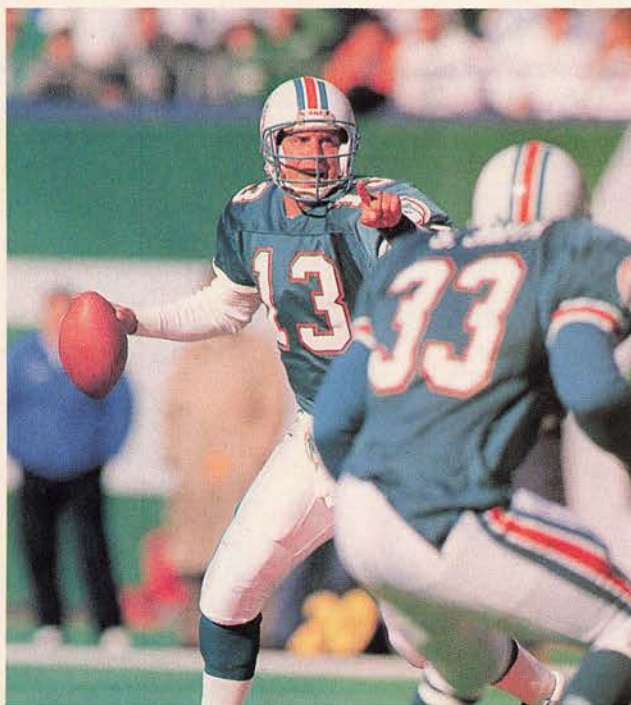
1 JOE MONTANA, SAN FRANCISCO. It will be years after Montana retires before fans understand what they have in Super Joe. Montana never had size (6-2,195) or great speed, but two things have made him the premier quarterback in the history of the game: uncanny field vision and toughness. Montana has an innate ability to anticipate passing lanes long before his receivers break open. And nobody is tougher, physically or in the crunch. Ask the Eagles—they punished Montana last year with eight sacks and led, 18-10, at the end of three quarters. But Montana, with both elbows bleeding and limping with a bum knee, still threw four fourth-quarter touchdowns to cap a 38-28 victory.

2 DAN MARINO, MIAMI. In recent years, Marino has been surrounded by inferior talent and a decimated offensive line, which have led to postseason frustration. But after Montana, Marino is still the best. His touchdown/interception ratio was the worst of his career in 1989 (24/22), but the emergence of running back Sammie Smith will ease his burden in 1990. "Marino," says an NFC East personnel director, "is still the quickest I've ever seen. He has great arm strength." The Dolphins, having drafted offensive linemen, are still a skill player away on offense from being contenders, but Marino will lead their march back to the playoffs.

3 BUBBY BRISTER, PITTSBURGH. He taunts defensive linemen. He oozes emotion. He struts standing still. And he wins. Critics point to his erratic completion average, but the Steelers' receiving corps has yet to live up to Brister's ability. And no quarterback in the league spits in the face of an oncoming blitz like Brister. "If you try to come after us," says head coach Chuck Noll, "he'll burn you." Last year, Brister boldly predicted that he would lead the Steelers to the playoffs. He did. "This year, I'm gonna walk softly and carry a bigger stick," Brister says. Former Jets head coach Joe Walton believes Brister will thrive in the Steelers' new offensive system, which will utilize more play-action rollouts and more passing to the tight end.

4 (Tie) BILLY JOE TOLLIVER, SAN DIEGO. AND DON MAJKOWSKI, GREEN BAY. No, we're not crazy. This Tolliver kid is *that* good.

T.G. HIGGINS/ALLSPORT USA



Miami gunner Dan Marino, still possessing one of the greatest arms in the game, hasn't led the Dolphins into the postseason party lately, but the drought should end this season.

The Chargers' second-round pick from Texas Tech stumbled early last season but finished with huge division wins over Kansas City and Denver. His 350 yards in Week 14 was the most productive performance by a Charger rookie in history. "Some days, his completion percentage might not be as good, but he'll hit for several touchdowns," says an AFC Central scout. "In time, he may be the best." Majkowski's 4,318 yards passing and 27 touchdowns in 1989 were the second-highest in club history. Perhaps more impressive was a refusal to admit defeat, even in the closing seconds, allowing the Pack to pull out several critical victories. Behind Majkowski, Green Bay rallied to beat the Vikings, swept Chicago in two games and tallied four one-point victories.

6 JOHN ELWAY, DENVER. Until Elway wins the Super Bowl, the city of Denver will keep a loaded gun poised at his forehead. Fierce criticism from media and fans

has made him more sensitive and withdrawn; he is not the vocal leader he once was. But critics forget that even while Elway's number of interceptions has always been high, so have his career touchdown total and victories. Elway by himself is worth five wins a year to the Broncos, which in all likelihood will mean another division title.

7 BERNIE KOSAR, CLEVELAND. Kosar's midseason elbow injury last year was overpublicized. Among his 18 touchdowns were scoring passes of 97, 80, 77, 68 and 62 yards; those are hardly the numbers of a guy with a bad gun. "Bernie looks as good as he ever has," says former offensive coordinator Marc Trestman. Look for Kosar to return to his early form in 1990. With the re-emergence of Kevin Mack and the development of scatback Eric Metcalf, Kosar will lead the AFC's most versatile offense.

8 BOOMER ESIASON, CINCINNATI. Boomer has become a model

quarterback despite a sometimes erratic and volatile head coach. He won his second straight AFC passing championship last year, firing for 3,525 yards and 28 touchdowns. The local media is charmed by his politeness, and all his teammates respect him. "Boomer has arrived," says tailback James Brooks. "There's no question who runs this team." The Bengals had an outstanding draft—their first three picks could start for many teams. With help arriving on defense, Esiason will put the Bengals back in the playoffs.

9 KEN O'BRIEN, NEW YORK JETS. O'Brien bashing is popular among the New York press, but it's time some credit was given to the Big Apple's favorite whipping boy. No NFL quarterback has taken a worse physical beating over the past two years than O'Brien (37 sacks in 1989), yet his 3,346 yards were the third best totals of his career. Under new coach Bruce Coslet, who built Cincinnati's attack offense, the Jets' offense will be restyled after the 1988 Bengals, and they will frequently spread the field with four receivers.

10 JIM EVERETT, LOS ANGELES RAMS. For the past two seasons, Everett has excelled in moderate anonymity. For the second straight year, he led the NFL in touchdowns (29) while throwing for a club record 4,310 yards. Since he became the starter as a rookie in 1986, the Rams have not been held under double figures in scoring during the regular season. Although Everett played much of the 1989 season with a bad back and a hip pointer, he didn't miss a game. "Jim gives us an emotional lift," says head coach John Robinson. "I like his attitude." That attitude may lead the Rams to the Super Bowl.

WHO'S MISSING

Jim Kelly, Buffalo: Still undisciplined; his talents are limited by his offense.

Warren Moon, Houston: All the tools, but leadership is suspect. **Randall Cunningham, Philadelphia:** Great athlete, but not a complete quarterback. **Andre Ware, Detroit:** He'll be on the list soon, guaranteed.

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Pennzoil and Recycling

Q. Can Pennzoil's yellow bottles be recycled?

J.F., Dillsboro, NC

A. Yes, Pennzoil uses bottles manufactured of High Density Polyethylene (HDPE). HDPE is a recyclable plastic. Items such as trash cans, traffic cones, flower pots, and plastic lumber, etc. are made from recycled HDPE. To recycle plastic properly, each different type of plastic must be segregated. The different types of plastics have different processes for recycling. To make this easier, a standardized identification symbol has been developed to facilitate separation as part of the industry's coding system. Under this system, plastic bottles are coded 1, 2, or 3. All Pennzoil bottles are classified as 2. As an aid to consumers, this symbol is being added directly to all Pennzoil bottles.

Editor's Comments

Recycling of plastics is important to our environment. Pennzoil continues to monitor the recycling and disposal issues, and to work with companies in this country and abroad that are perfecting recycling technology. In addition, we provide information on how to recycle in a responsible manner.

The Long and the Short of Oil Filters

Q. I have two General Motors vehicles with about the same size engines, but one has a long oil filter and the other has a short oil filter. Is there a difference other than length, or are all oil filters the same?

T.R., Morris, MN

A. No. All oil filters are not the same. Although some filters may look similar from the outside, they may differ substantially inside. Oil filters are designed to meet engine requirements. Some specific requirements include burst pressure, the presence or absence of an anti-drain valve, thread size, and gasket size. Some engines are designed with by-pass



By Don Johnson

*Vice President, Product Engineering
Pennzoil Products Company*

valves built into the engine while others require a by-pass valve in the oil filter. Pennzoil oil filters are designed and manufactured to exceed all engine manufacturers' warranty requirements. Never substitute one filter for another just because they look the same. Doing so, could mean the difference between outstanding protection and engine failure. Always consult a filter application guide to select the proper Pennzoil oil filter for your engine.

100,000 Mile Club

Q. I have over 445,000 miles on my 1973 Pontiac Grand Am using Pennzoil 10W-30 Motor Oil, without ever removing the heads.

L.F., Valdosta, GA

A. Congratulations! We receive letters from people all over the country who have 100,000, 200,000, 300,000 and more trouble-free miles on their engines using Pennzoil Motor Oil. Pennzoil has a 100,000 Mile Club for people with extremely high mileage on their vehicles. High engine mileage is a tribute to the outstanding maintenance these owners have performed on their vehicles. For more information, write to Don Johnson at the address on the coupon.

We're Open to Questions

about motor oils, lubricants and engines. However, you can tell us a few things, too. Maybe you've discovered something about motor oil or lubricants. Or you have a special reason for being a Pennzoil fan. We would like to hear from you. Write to Don Johnson at the address given below.

For more information about motor oils, write to Pennzoil for a free copy of our booklet "The Motor Oil Story."

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Only one of these API symbols, shown below, represents a motor oil that meets all passenger vehicle manufacturers' U.S. warranty requirements.



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1 BARRY SANDERS, DETROIT. The NFC rushing leader, who conceded the NFL rushing title last year to Kansas City's Christian Okoye (who had 10 more yards on 90 more attempts), had to be relieved to see the Lions draft quarterback Andre Ware to orchestrate their run 'n' shoot offense; it will open up the run even more. "Against Sanders," says a scout, "most defenses ignored their passing game and played their heavy people all the time, because you're afraid he may bust a draw on third and long." The Lions have gone to great lengths to bring their passing game up to par, which means Sanders will again be the dominant back in the NFL.

2 ALONZO HIGHSMITH, HOUSTON. For two-plus years, Highsmith was the NFL's best blocking fullback. But that was in Houston's two-back, slug-mouth scheme. Those days are gone as the Oilers unleash the pure run 'n' shoot in 1990, using Highsmith as the dominant one-back. "This offense will give Alonzo the chance to showcase the talents he's always had," says offensive coordinator Kevin Gilbride. "He's big [6-1, 234], he's fast [4.5] and he's a devastating blocker." You heard it here first: Highsmith will have his first 1,000-yard season, challenge Christian Okoye for the AFC rushing title, and make a strong bid for the Pro Bowl.

3 JAMES BROOKS, CINCINNATI. At the age of 31, Brooks seems like he's been around forever, but he keeps running like he's getting younger. Last year, in his ninth NFL season, Brooks had his finest year, rushing for 1,239 yards. His 5.6 yards per carry led the AFC, and he was voted by his teammates as offensive MVP. Opposing coaches praise Brooks for his physical toughness. It's hard to criticize him; he seldom fumbles, gets the tough yards inside and still has the deceptive speed to break it long.

4 THURMAN THOMAS, BUFFALO. When Thomas became Buffalo's second-round draft pick in 1988, most scouts completely missed on his ability to catch the football. Thomas had 60 receptions in 1989, including 13 catches against Cleveland in the playoffs. And his 2,000-plus yards rushing over the past two seasons surpasses all other backs from the 1988 class. Thomas led the NFL in total yards from

RUNNING BACKS



One year removed from the Heisman Trophy and Oklahoma State University, Detroit running back Barry Sanders not only won Rookie of the Year, he captured the NFC rushing crown.

scrimmage with 1,913 yards in '89. At 5-10 and 198 pounds, he struggles sometimes as a blocker, but is unafraid to go head up with any linebacker in the league.

5 ROGER CRAIG, SAN FRANCISCO. Much like Brooks, 30-year-old Craig keeps surprising opponents with his productivity. Craig was the difference in tight games for the title-bound 49ers; he totaled 100-plus yards rushing and receiving in back-to-back weeks, scored the winning points against the Rams and averaged 6.4 yards a carry against Atlanta. In the playoffs, Craig had 94 yards against the Rams. "Roger is a big-time performer," says 49ers head coach George Seifert. "When you need it most, he gets it." Some scouts think Craig has endured too much punishment. But he keeps on ticking; he finished 1989 with 1,054 yards and six rushing touchdowns.

6 NEAL ANDERSON, CHICAGO. Last season, Anderson more than lived up to the potential that made him a first-round pick in 1986, rushing for 1,275 yards (11 touchdowns) and leading the Bears in receptions with 50. It was Anderson's second year to rush for more than 1,000 yards. Team doctors say he should experience no problems from a postseason operation to repair a torn muscle in his right index finger.

7 DALTON HILLIARD, NEW ORLEANS. Defensive coordinators around the NFC agree: Next to Tampa Bay's Sylvester Stamps, Hilliard hits the hole faster than any back in the league. "He just explodes through there," says Minnesota's defensive coordinator Floyd Peters. "He's a darting, slashing-type back, who really makes you miss. He's a very difficult target." Hilliard overcame his size (5-8, 204) to lead the Saints in rushing with 1,262 yards and 13 touch-

downs, and he earned his first Pro Bowl appearance. "What impresses me about Hilliard," says Buffalo director of player personnel John Butler, "is that he's tough. For his size, he takes tremendous punishment."

8 TOM RATHMAN, SAN FRANCISCO. Rathman is a perfect example of a player who can't be measured by statistics. A long-shot, third-round pick in 1986, Rathman has blossomed into the NFL's best fullback; he blocks, he catches, he runs. For the 49ers, he is the quintessential utility player. He caught a career-high 11 passes against New England, recovered a fumble against the Jets on special teams, rushed for 77 yards and caught passes for 43 yards against Atlanta. "Rathman," says Buffalo's Butler, "is everything you want in a fullback."

9 BOBBY HUMPHREY, DENVER. Despite his inexperience, Humphrey provided the Broncos with a sorely needed ground attack, rushing for 1,151 yards in his rookie season. Five times, he rushed for more than 100 yards in a game, adding 22 receptions for 156 yards and a touchdown. "We feel that Bobby will continue to take pressure off our passing game," says Broncos head coach Dan Reeves. Look for fullback Melvin Bratton to develop in 1990, which will give the Broncos their best running attack in 10 years.

10 CHRISTIAN OKOYE, KANSAS CITY. Okoye was the NFL's leading rusher with 1,480 yards and an asterisk—he carried the ball a whopping 370 times. But there was no denying his impact on Kansas City's offense; they established dozens of new rushing records as the 253-pound Nigerian Nightmare rolled up eight 100-yard games. Okoye sorely needs to work on his receiving skills. And despite his size, he remains an average blocker. Scouts are quick to point out, however, that Okoye, now entering his fourth NFL season, is still relatively new to the sport.

WHO'S MISSING

Eric Dickerson, Indianapolis: Will he play? Where? How much? How well? **Bo Jackson, Los Angeles Raiders:** You got to play all season to make our list.

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Dear Friend,

I made \$9,800 in 24 hours. You may do better!

My name is John Wright. Not too long ago I was flat broke. I was \$31,000 in debt. The bank repossessed my car because I couldn't keep up with the payments. And one day the landlord gave me an eviction notice because I hadn't paid the rent for three months. So we had to move out. My family and I stayed at my cousin's place for the rest of that month before I could manage to get another apartment. That was very embarrassing.

Things have changed now. I own four homes in Southern California. The one I'm living in now in Beverly Hills is worth more than one million dollars. I own several cars, among them a brand new Mercedes and a brand new Cadillac. Right now, I have a million dollar line of credit with the banks and have certificates of deposit at \$100,000 each in my bank in Beverly Hills.

Best of all, I have time to have fun. To be me. To do what I want. I work about 4 hours a day, the rest of the day, I do things that please me. Some days I go swimming and sailing — shopping. Other days, I play racquetball or tennis. Sometimes, frankly, I just lie out under the sun with a good book. I love to take long vacations. I just got back from a two week vacation from — Maui, Hawaii.

I'm not really trying to impress you with my wealth. All I'm trying to do here is to prove to you that if it wasn't because of that money secret I was lucky enough to find that day, I still would have been poor or may be even bankrupt. It was only through this amazing money secret that I could pull myself out of debt and become wealthy. Who knows what would have happened to my family and me.

Knowing about this secret changed my life completely. It brought me wealth, happiness, and most important of all — peace of mind. This secret will change your life, too! It will give you everything you need and will solve all your money problems. Of course you don't have to take my word for it. You can try it for yourself. To see that you try this secret, I'm willing to give you \$20.00 in cash. (I'm giving my address at the bottom of this page.) I figure, if I spend \$20.00, I get your attention. And you will prove it to yourself this amazing money secret will work for you, too!

Why, you may ask, am I willing to share this secret with you? To make money? Hardly. First, I already have all the money and possessions I'll ever need. Second, my secret does not involve any sort of competition whatsoever. Third, nothing is more satisfying to me than sharing my secret only with those who realize a golden opportunity and get on it quickly.

This secret is incredibly simple. Anyone can use it. You can get started with practically no money at all and the risk is almost zero. You don't need special training or even a high school education. It doesn't matter how young or old you are and it will work for you at home or even while you are on vacation.

Let me tell you more about this fascinating money making secret:

With this secret the money can roll in fast. In some cases you may be able to cash in literally overnight. If you can follow simple instructions you can get started in a single afternoon and it is possible to have spendable money in your hands the very next morning. In fact, this just might be the fastest legal way to make money that has ever been invented!

This is a very safe way to get extra cash. It is practically risk free. It is not a dangerous gamble. Everything you do has already been tested and you can get started for less money than most people spend for a night on the town.

One of the nicest things about this whole idea is that you can do it at home in your spare time. You don't need equipment or an office. It doesn't matter where you live either. You can use this secret to make money if you live in a big city or on a farm or anywhere in between. A husband and wife team from New York used my secret, worked at home in their spare time, and made \$45,000 in one year.

This secret is simple. It would be hard to make a mistake if you tried. You don't need a college degree or even a high school education. All you need is a little common sense and the ability to follow simple, easy, step-by-step instructions. I personally know a man from New England who used this secret and made \$2 million in just 3 years.

You can use this secret to make money no matter how old or how young you may be. There is no physical labor involved and everything is so easy it can be done

Here's what newspapers and magazines are saying about this incredible secret:

The Washington Times:

The Royal Road to Riches is paved with golden tips.

National Examiner:

John Wright has an excellent guide for achieving wealth in your spare time.

Income Opportunities:

The Royal Road to Riches is an invaluable guide for finding success in your own back yard.

News Tribune:

Wright's material is a MUST for anyone who contemplates making it as an independent entrepreneur.

Success!

John Wright believes in success, pure and simple.

Money Making Opportunities:

John Wright has a rare gift for helping people with no experience make lots of money. He's made many people wealthy.

California Political Week:

... The politics of high finance made easy.

The Toluca:

You'll love ... *The Royal Road to Riches*. It's filled with valuable information ... only wish I'd known about it years ago!

Hollywood Citizen News:

He does more than give general ideas. He gives people a detailed A to Z plan to make big money.

The Desert Sun:

Wright's *Royal Road to Riches* lives up to its title in offering an uncomplicated path to financial success.

whether you're a teenager or 90 years old. I know one woman who is over 65 and is making all the money she needs with this secret.

When you use this secret to make money you never have to try to convince anybody of anything. This has nothing to do with door-to-door selling, telephone solicitation, real estate or anything else that involves personal contact.

Everything about this idea is perfectly legal and honest. You will be proud of what you are doing and you will be providing a very valuable service.

It will only take you two hours to learn how to use this secret. After that everything is almost automatic. After you get started you can probably do everything that is necessary in three hours per week.

PROOF

I know you are skeptical. That simply shows your good business sense. Well, here is proof from people who have put this amazing secret into use and have gotten all the money they ever desired. Their initials have been used in order to protect their privacy, but I have full information and the actual proof of their success in my files.

'More Money Than I Ever Dreamed'

"All I can say — your plan is great! In just 8 weeks, I took in over \$100,000. More money than I ever dreamed of making. At this rate, I honestly believe, I can make over a million dollars per year."

A. F., Providence, R.I.

'\$9,800 In 24 Hours!'

"I didn't believe it when you said the secret could produce money the next morning. Boy, was I wrong, and you were right! I purchased your *Royal Road to Riches*. On the basis of your advice, \$9,800 poured in, in less than 24 hours! John, your secret is incredible!"

J. K., Laguna Hills, CA

'Made \$15,000 In 2 Months At 22'

"I was able to earn over \$15,000 with your plan — in just the past two months. As a 22 year old girl, I never thought that I'd ever be able to make as much money, as fast as I've been able to do. I really do wish to thank you, with all of my heart."

Ms. E. L., Los Angeles, CA

'Made \$126,000 In 3 Months'

"For years, I passed up all the plans that promised to make me rich. Probably I am lucky I did — but I am even more lucky that I took the time to send for your

material. It changed my whole life. Thanks to you, I made \$126,000 in 3 months."

S. W., Plainfield, IN

'Made \$203,000 In 8 Months'

"I never believed those success stories ... never believed I would be one of them ... using your techniques, in just 8 months, I made over \$203,000 ... made over \$20,000 more in the last 22 days! Not just well prepared, but simple, easy, fast ... John, thank you for your *Royal Road to Riches*!"

C. M., Los Angeles, CA

'\$500,000 In Six Months'

"I'm amazed at my success! By using your secret I made \$500,000 in six months. That's more than twenty times what I've made in any single year before! I've never made so much money in such short time with minimum effort. My whole life I was waiting for this amazing miracle! Thank you, John Wright."

R. S., McLean, VA

As you can tell by now I have come across something pretty good. I believe I have discovered the sweetest little money-making secret you could ever imagine. Remember — I guarantee it.

Most of the time, it takes big money to make money. This is an exception. With this secret you can start in your spare time with almost nothing. But of course, you don't have to start small or stay small. You can go as fast and as far as you wish. The size of your profits is totally up to you. I can't guarantee how much you will make with this secret but I can tell you this — so far this amazing money producing secret makes the profits from most other ideas look like peanuts!

Now at last, I've completely explained this remarkable secret in a special money making plan. I call it "The Royal Road to Riches". Some call it a miracle. You'll probably call it "The Secret of Riches". You will learn everything you need to know step-by-step. So you too can put this amazing money making secret to work for you and make all the money you need.

To prove this secret will solve all your money problems, don't send me any money, *instead postdate your check for a month and a half from today*. I guarantee not to deposit it for 45 days. I won't cash your check for 45 days before I know for sure that you are completely satisfied with my material.

\$20.00 FREE!

There is no way you can lose. You either solve all your money problems with this secret (in just 30 days) or you get your money back *plus \$20.00 in cash FREE!*

Do you realize what this means? You can put my simple secret into use. Be able to solve all your money problems. And if for any reason whatsoever you are not 100% satisfied after using the secret for 30 days, you may return my material. And then I will not only return your original UNCASHED CHECK, but I will also send you an *extra \$20.00 cashiers check* just for giving the secret an honest try according to the simple instructions.

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SWORN STATEMENT:

"As Mr. John Wright's accountant, I certify that his assets exceed one million dollars."

Mark Davis

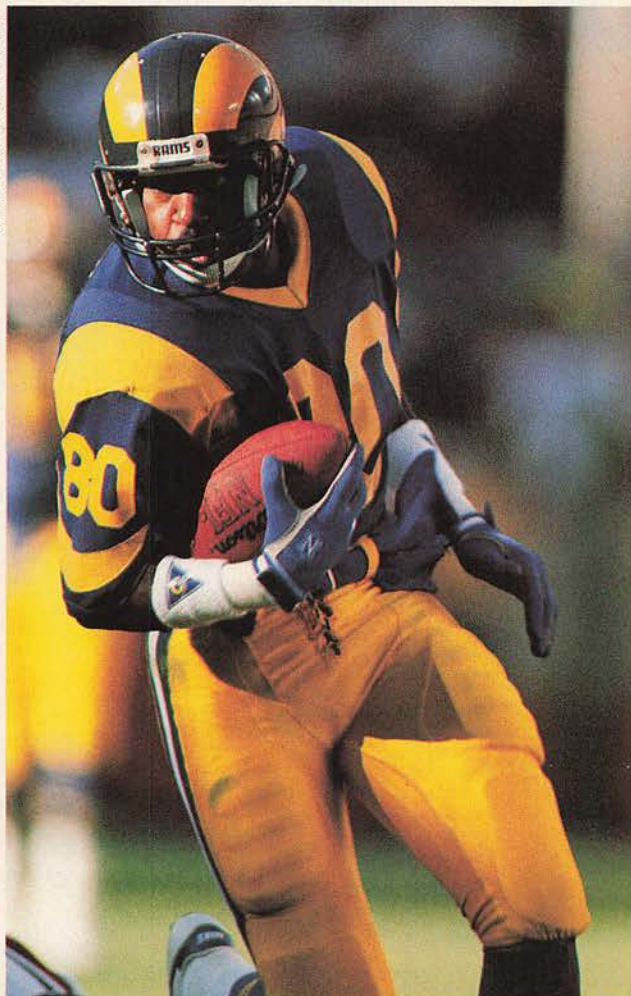
1 (Tie) WILLIE ANDERSON and HENRY ELLARD, LOS ANGELES RAMS. After combining for 2,528 yards in 1989, the receiving tandem of "Flipper" Anderson and Ellard will surpass Jerry Rice and John Taylor in 1990 as the best combo in the league. Ellard, in his eighth year out of Fresno State, is still a textbook receiver. He has excellent body control, protects the football and is very fluid in the open field. Until Flipper's emergence, Ellard had grown used to double coverage. But after Anderson took in 15 catches for 336 yards against the Saints, teams no longer could isolate against either player. "Flipper was the difference in several games last year," says John Robinson. Anderson beat the Giants in the playoffs with two touchdowns and caught two passes for 77 yards to help beat the Eagles in the wild-card game. "Anderson has excellent speed on top," says a scout. "This kid is a championship player."

3 STERLING SHARPE, GREEN BAY. Much of Green Bay's offense centers around Sharpe, with good reason. He may be the NFL's most physical, attacking receiver, though he's not the most gifted. He will catch over the middle and knows no fear. Sharpe led the NFL in 1989 with 90 catches and was second only to Rice in receiving yards (1,423).

4 (Tie) JERRY RICE and JOHN TAYLOR, SAN FRANCISCO. How can you separate a duo that routinely turns six-yard routes into long touchdowns? In the opener against the Colts, Taylor threw a crushing downfield block that allowed Rice to turn a quick slant into a 58-yard touchdown. Against the Rams, Rice returned the favor by throwing two downfield blocks that allowed Taylor to convert two hitch routes into 92- and 95-yard scores. Rice is bigger (6-2, 200), but Taylor is quicker. Together, they rolled up more than 2,500 yards and 27 touchdowns in 1989. Expect more of the same in '90. Receiver Mike Sherrard, a free-agent signee last year, is 100 percent healthy. His 4.4 speed will make him a constant deep threat in the 49ers' four-wide attack, which will clear traffic underneath for the Rice and Taylor show.

6 RICKY SANDERS, WASHINGTON. Sanders has lived in the shadows of Art Monk and Gary Clark,

WIDE RECEIVERS



Double coverage hampered Henry Ellard's performance for years. No more. The Rams' wide receiver is now getting the recognition he deserves.

which is a great injustice. Monk, in his prime, *might* have been better than Sanders, but Clark couldn't beat out Sanders on his worst day. Setting Sanders apart are his light, quick feet, soft hands, and ability to flow to the long ball without breaking stride. You don't overthrow Sanders. Watching him work out is a baffling experience; try as you may, you can't hear him run or catch. "We plan to work Ricky into the offense more," says Joe Gibbs. That's a great idea, coach.

7 RICHARD JOHNSON, DETROIT. Nobody wanted the 5-6, 185-pound speedster after he graduated from Colorado, where he played

running back. Converted to receiver in the USFL, he proceeded to catch 218 passes for 2,839 yards in two seasons. But the NFL again turned its head. Finally, after two years as a computer programmer for IBM, Johnson was summoned by Mouse Davis, his USFL offensive coordinator to the Lions. Johnson responded with 70 catches, and his 1,091 yards were second in Detroit history. Look for more of the same in 1990, especially with Andre Ware pulling the trigger. "Nobody reads coverage better or makes better decisions than Richard," says Davis. The additions of receivers Aubrey Matthews and Terry Greer, two Plan

B free agents familiar with the four-receiver set, will make Johnson even more productive.

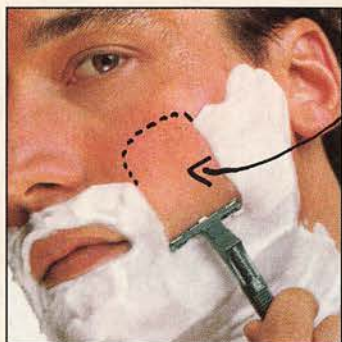
8 DREW HILL, HOUSTON. When the Oilers are in a critical situation, you can bet that Warren Moon is looking downfield for Hill. In spite of his age (33), Hill led the Oilers in receiving for the second straight year. With Houston committed to using the wide-open Red Gun attack on a permanent basis, Hill's 1989 catches (66) could easily double. He still drops too many balls to be considered in the top five, but his lack of fame is a crime.

9 ANDRE REED, BUFFALO. Reed's 88 catches last year were a remarkable feat; he somehow produced in spite of Buffalo's stagnant, predictable, boring offense. Reed repeatedly came through for the punchless Bills: 13 catches against Denver; 115 yards against San Francisco; a 78-yard touchdown sprint against Houston. "Buffalo's offense struggles because they aren't interested in committing to a modern attack," says an NFC assistant coach. "They proved in the playoffs that [Jim] Kelly and Reed can be unstoppable, but still they keep them under wraps, waiting until their backs are against the wall."

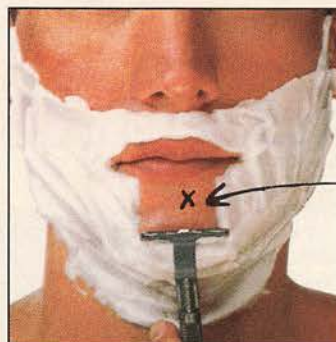
10 ANTHONY MILLER, SAN DIEGO. At a recent workout in San Diego, receivers coach Charlie Joiner couldn't stop smiling. The reason was third-year man Miller, who could well prove us all wrong in 1990. With a little help from quarterback Billy Joe Tolliver, he might be the best receiver. Surrounded by mediocrity, Miller got little attention in 1989. But remember these numbers when you flick on the tube this fall: 75 catches, 10 touchdowns, five 100-yard games, a 162-yard effort against Houston, and a 91-yard kickoff return in the third quarter sparked a Charger comeback against the Raiders.

WHO'S MISSING

Anthony Carter, Minnesota: Predictable Minnesota offense limits him, and he can't stay healthy. **Brian Blades, Seattle:** Not enough speed for Seattle's new run 'n' shoot. **Webster Slaughter, Cleveland:** A tremendous player who isn't used enough.

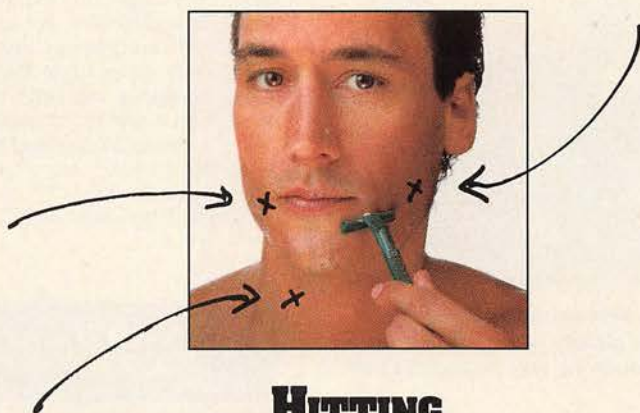


**HANDLING
THE ZONE.**

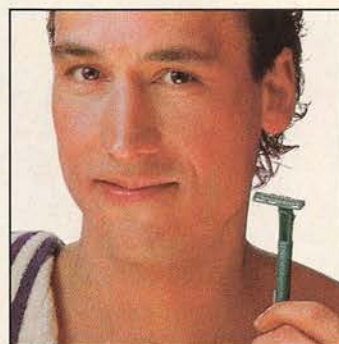


**PENETRATING
THE LANE.**

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**HITTING
THREE POINTS.**



He does it with the Schick® Slim Twin® Disposable razor. Slim Twin has a slim head to shave hard-to-reach places.

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Slim Twin even has a one-push cleaning bar to remove soap and stubble.

So get with the program. And get to the tough spots with Schick's Slim Twin Disposable.

It reaches every place on every face.



1 FERRELL EDMUNDS, MIAMI. The least publicized of the Miami receiving corps, Ferrell Edmunds, may be what makes the Dolphins go in 1990. The 6-6, 248-pound Edmunds is an ideal target and an added dimension for the pass-happy Dolphins. "He is such a good receiver," says coach Don Shula, "that on second-and-long, it's an advantage to keep him in the game instead of bringing in a third wide receiver because the defense won't be sure if we're going to run or pass."

2 KEITH JACKSON, PHILADELPHIA. The premier tight end in 1989, Jackson possesses all the tools to be one of the greatest ever. He finished tops among tight ends in receptions (63) and second only to Rodney Holman in yards (648) despite being injured through half of last season. "We missed him, there's no question about it," says Eagles coach Buddy Ryan. "When he's out of the lineup for as much time as he was, it really hurts your offense." Not yet a dominating blocker, Jackson has yet to realize his full potential. "He has so much talent," says Ryan, "it's unbelievable."

3 RODNEY HOLMAN, CINCINNATI. The best blocking tight end in the league, Rodney Holman has raised his game to new heights. A bit undersized (6-3, 238), Holman still takes pride in his blocking ability. "If I get a good block, and the back runs for 15 or 20 yards, I'm just as happy as if I make a catch," he says. Still, he did manage to catch 50 passes for 736 yards in '89. According to Bengals tight ends coach Bill Johnson, who is entering his 43rd season in professional football, Holman "is as good a tight end as I've been around." This nine-year pro out of Tulane will help to restore the roar to the vaunted Bengals offense in 1990.

4 STEVE JORDAN, MINNESOTA. The most intelligent tight end on our list, Jordan often opts for brains

TIGHT ENDS



Philadelphia's Keith Jackson, already regarded as one of the greatest tight ends in NFL history, led all tight ends in receptions last year—even though he was injured for half a season.

over brawn. "He's a physically tough player who blocks well, but one who is smart enough to get open in the seams," says offensive coordinator Bob Schnelker. Beginning his ninth season, Jordan has been to three Pro Bowls since entering the league as a little-known prospect from Brown University.

5 MARK BAVARO, NEW YORK GIANTS. Bavaro spent the last nine games of 1989 on injured reserve, a situation that infuriated the most-acclaimed tight end of the 1980s. New York coaches say he will be 100 percent in 1990, which has to frustrate secondaries around the league.

"He's a great competitor in two areas where you ask the most of a tight end," says head coach Bill Parcells, "blocking and catching the ball inside."

6 BRENT JONES, SAN FRANCISCO. This fourth-year pro out of Santa Clara has emerged into a pleasant surprise for the 49ers. The 6-4, 230-pound Jones is a naturally gifted player who needs only to refine his skills to become an every-down player. A punishing blocker, Jones possesses amazingly soft hands for a big man. Add the constant outside threats of Jerry Rice and John Taylor, and Jones is frequently open underneath and across

the middle, a fact evident in the playoffs, when he hauled in eight passes and three touchdowns. Jones may be the least known of the 49ers arsenal, but he will once again quietly produce in 1990.

7 PETE METZELAARS, BUFFALO. Last year, Metzelaars became the all-time leading receiving tight end in Buffalo history (140 receptions). His tremendous size (6-7, 250) makes this ninth-year player out of tiny Wabash College a frequent target of quarterback Jim Kelly. Scouts praise Metzelaars' tremendous blocking ability. "He's a tackle playing tight end," says one. "He doesn't possess good speed, doesn't separate well from linebackers, yet he always comes up with the big catch." Metzelaars will be pushed hard this season by fourth-year man Keith McKellar, who pleased coaches in 1989 with capable hands and speed.

8 ERIC GREEN, PITTSBURGH. The Steelers' first-round pick out of Liberty College, Green offers something Pittsburgh has sorely missed for years: A big (6-4, 268) underneath target who can block and catch. In Joe Walton's new offensive scheme, Green will become an instant starter, giving him ample opportunity to display the skills that made him a first-round choice. "He's a strong blocker and has excellent hands," says head coach Chuck Noll. "We feel he's a prototype tight end."

WHO'S MISSING

Travis McNeal, Seattle: The next Ozzie Newsome. An outstanding blocker who needs more chances as a receiver.

WHO'S KICKIN'

KICKERS

1. Morten Andersen, New Orleans
2. Gary Anderson, Pittsburgh
3. Dean Biasucci, Indianapolis
4. Nick Lowery, Kansas City
5. Scott Norwood, Buffalo

PUNTERS

1. Jim Arnold, Detroit
2. Reggie Robie, Miami
3. Ralf Mojsiejenko, Washington
4. Mike Horan, Denver
5. Rohn Stark, Indianapolis

*“Now I know what
remote possibilities
really are.”*

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WHEN YOU GO OFF-ROAD, GO EASY ON THE ENVIRONMENT.

TOYOTA



FIRST WEEKEND

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| DENVER AT LOS ANGELES RAIDERS | 1:00 |
| HOUSTON AT ATLANTA | 4:00 |
| INDIANAPOLIS AT BUFFALO | 4:00 |
| NEW YORK JETS AT CINCINNATI | 4:00 |
| MIAMI AT NEW ENGLAND | 4:00 |
| MINNESOTA AT KANSAS CITY | 12:00 |
| PHOENIX AT WASHINGTON | 1:00 |
| PITTSBURGH AT CLEVELAND | 4:00 |
| LOS ANGELES RAMS AT GREEN BAY | 12:00 |
| SAN DIEGO AT DALLAS | 3:00 |
| SEATTLE AT CHICAGO | 12:00 |
| TAMPA BAY AT DETROIT | 1:00 |

SUNDAY NIGHT, SEPTEMBER 9

| | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| PHILADELPHIA AT NEW YORK GIANTS | 8:00 |
|---------------------------------|------|

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

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|------------------------------|------|
| SAN FRANCISCO AT NEW ORLEANS | 8:00 |
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SECOND WEEKEND

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| ATLANTA AT DETROIT | 1:00 |
| BUFFALO AT MIAMI | 1:00 |
| CHICAGO AT GREEN BAY | 12:00 |
| CINCINNATI AT SAN DIEGO | 1:00 |
| CLEVELAND AT NEW YORK JETS | 1:00 |
| NEW ENGLAND AT INDIANAPOLIS | 12:00 |
| NEW ORLEANS AT MINNESOTA | 3:00 |
| NEW YORK GIANTS AT DALLAS | 3:00 |
| LOS ANGELES RAIDERS AT SEATTLE | 1:00 |
| LOS ANGELES RAMS AT TAMPA BAY | 1:00 |
| PHOENIX AT PHILADELPHIA | 1:00 |
| WASHINGTON AT SAN FRANCISCO | 1:00 |

SUNDAY NIGHT, SEPTEMBER 16

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| HOUSTON AT PITTSBURGH | 8:00 |
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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

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|-----------------------|------|
| KANSAS CITY AT DENVER | 7:00 |
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THIRD WEEKEND

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| ATLANTA AT SAN FRANCISCO | 1:00 |
| DALLAS AT WASHINGTON | 1:00 |
| INDIANAPOLIS AT HOUSTON | 12:00 |
| KANSAS CITY AT GREEN BAY | 12:00 |
| MIAMI AT NEW YORK GIANTS | 1:00 |
| MINNESOTA AT CHICAGO | 12:00 |
| NEW ENGLAND AT CINCINNATI | 1:00 |
| PHILADELPHIA AT LOS ANGELES RAMS | 1:00 |
| PHOENIX AT NEW ORLEANS | 12:00 |
| PITTSBURGH AT LOS ANGELES RAIDERS | 1:00 |
| SAN DIEGO AT CLEVELAND | 1:00 |
| SEATTLE AT DENVER | 2:00 |

SUNDAY NIGHT, SEPTEMBER 23

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|----------------------|------|
| DETROIT AT TAMPA BAY | 8:00 |
|----------------------|------|

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| BUFFALO AT NEW YORK JETS | 9:00 |
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FOURTH WEEKEND

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| OPEN DATE: 4 NFC WEST TEAMS | |
| CHICAGO AT LOS ANGELES RAIDERS | 1:00 |
| CLEVELAND AT KANSAS CITY | 3:00 |
| DALLAS AT NEW YORK GIANTS | 1:00 |
| DENVER AT BUFFALO | 1:00 |
| GREEN BAY AT DETROIT | 1:00 |
| HOUSTON AT SAN DIEGO | 1:00 |
| INDIANAPOLIS AT PHILADELPHIA | 1:00 |
| MIAMI AT PITTSBURGH | 1:00 |
| NEW YORK JETS AT NEW ENGLAND | 4:00 |
| TAMPA BAY AT MINNESOTA | 12:00 |

SUNDAY NIGHT, SEPTEMBER 30

| | |
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| WASHINGTON AT PHOENIX | 5:00 |
|-----------------------|------|

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| CINCINNATI AT SEATTLE | 6:00 |
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1990 NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE SCHEDULE



ST THOMAS

FIFTH WEEKEND

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| OPEN DATE: 4 NFC EAST TEAMS | |
| CINCINNATI AT LOS ANGELES RAMS | 1:00 |
| DETROIT AT MINNESOTA | 12:00 |
| GREEN BAY AT CHICAGO | 3:00 |
| KANSAS CITY AT INDIANAPOLIS | 12:00 |
| NEW ORLEANS AT ATLANTA | 1:00 |
| NEW YORK JETS AT MIAMI | 1:00 |
| SAN DIEGO AT PITTSBURGH | 1:00 |
| SAN FRANCISCO AT HOUSTON | 12:00 |
| SEATTLE AT NEW ENGLAND | 1:00 |
| TAMPA BAY AT DALLAS | 12:00 |

SUNDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 7

| | |
|--------------------------------|------|
| LOS ANGELES RAIDERS AT BUFFALO | 7:30 |
|--------------------------------|------|

MONDAY, OCTOBER 8

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| CLEVELAND AT DENVER | 7:00 |
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SIXTH WEEKEND

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| OPEN DATE: 4 AFC EAST TEAMS | |
| CLEVELAND AT NEW ORLEANS | 12:00 |
| DALLAS AT PHOENIX | 1:00 |
| DETROIT AT KANSAS CITY | 12:00 |
| GREEN BAY AT TAMPA BAY | 1:00 |
| HOUSTON AT CINCINNATI | 1:00 |
| NEW YORK GIANTS AT WASHINGTON | 4:00 |
| PITTSBURGH AT DENVER | 2:00 |
| SAN DIEGO AT NEW YORK JETS | 1:00 |
| SAN FRANCISCO AT ATLANTA | 1:00 |
| SEATTLE AT LOS ANGELES RAIDERS | 1:00 |

SUNDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 14

| | |
|-----------------------------|------|
| LOS ANGELES RAMS AT CHICAGO | 6:30 |
|-----------------------------|------|

MONDAY, OCTOBER 15

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| MINNESOTA AT PHILADELPHIA | 9:00 |
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SEVENTH WEEKEND

THURSDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 18

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|--------------------------------|------|
| OPEN DATE: 4 NFC CENTRAL TEAMS | |
| NEW ENGLAND AT MIAMI | 8:00 |

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| ATLANTA AT LOS ANGELES RAMS | 1:00 |
| DALLAS AT TAMPA BAY | 1:00 |
| DENVER AT INDIANAPOLIS | 12:00 |
| KANSAS CITY AT SEATTLE | 1:00 |
| NEW ORLEANS AT HOUSTON | 12:00 |
| NEW YORK JETS AT BUFFALO | 1:00 |
| PHILADELPHIA AT WASHINGTON | 1:00 |
| PHOENIX AT NEW YORK GIANTS | 4:00 |
| PITTSBURGH AT SAN FRANCISCO | 1:00 |
| LOS ANGELES RAIDERS AT SAN DIEGO | 1:00 |

MONDAY, OCTOBER 22

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|-------------------------|------|
| CINCINNATI AT CLEVELAND | 9:00 |
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EIGHTH WEEKEND

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28

| | |
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| OPEN DATE: 4 AFC WEST TEAMS | |
| BUFFALO AT NEW ENGLAND | 1:00 |
| CHICAGO AT PHOENIX | 2:00 |
| CLEVELAND AT SAN FRANCISCO | 1:00 |
| DETROIT AT NEW ORLEANS | 12:00 |
| MIAMI AT INDIANAPOLIS | 1:00 |
| MINNESOTA VS. GREEN BAY AT MILWAUKEE | 12:00 |
| NEW YORK JETS AT HOUSTON | 12:00 |
| PHILADELPHIA AT DALLAS | 12:00 |
| TAMPA BAY AT SAN DIEGO | 1:00 |
| WASHINGTON AT NEW YORK GIANTS | 4:00 |

SUNDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 28

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| CINCINNATI AT ATLANTA | 8:00 |
|-----------------------|------|

MONDAY, OCTOBER 29

| | |
|--------------------------------|------|
| LOS ANGELES RAMS AT PITTSBURGH | 9:00 |
|--------------------------------|------|



TOYOTA
"I love what you do for me."

TOYOTA



NINTH WEEKEND

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| ATLANTA AT PITTSBURGH | 1:00 |
| BUFFALO AT CLEVELAND | 1:00 |
| CHICAGO AT TAMPA BAY | 4:00 |
| DALLAS AT NEW YORK JETS | 1:00 |
| HOUSTON AT LOS ANGELES RAMS | 1:00 |
| NEW ENGLAND AT PHILADELPHIA | 1:00 |
| NEW ORLEANS AT CINCINNATI | 1:00 |
| PHOENIX AT MIAMI | 1:00 |
| LOS ANGELES RAIDERS AT KANSAS CITY | 12:00 |
| SAN DIEGO AT SEATTLE | 1:00 |
| SAN FRANCISCO AT GREEN BAY | 12:00 |
| WASHINGTON AT DETROIT | 1:00 |

SUNDAY NIGHT, NOVEMBER 4

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| DENVER AT MINNESOTA | 7:00 |
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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5

| | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| NEW YORK GIANTS AT INDIANAPOLIS | 9:00 |
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TENTH WEEKEND

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11

| | |
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| OPEN DATE: 4 AFC CENTRAL TEAMS | |
| ATLANTA AT CHICAGO | 12:00 |
| DENVER AT SAN DIEGO | 1:00 |
| GREEN BAY AT LOS ANGELES RAIDERS | 1:00 |
| INDIANAPOLIS AT NEW ENGLAND | 1:00 |
| MIAMI AT NEW YORK JETS | 1:00 |
| MINNESOTA AT DETROIT | 1:00 |
| NEW YORK GIANTS AT LOS ANGELES RAMS | 1:00 |
| PHOENIX AT BUFFALO | 1:00 |
| SEATTLE AT KANSAS CITY | 12:00 |
| TAMPA BAY AT NEW ORLEANS | 12:00 |

SUNDAY NIGHT, NOVEMBER 11

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| SAN FRANCISCO AT DALLAS | 7:00 |
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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| WASHINGTON AT PHILADELPHIA | 9:00 |
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ELEVENTH WEEKEND

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| CHICAGO AT DENVER | 2:00 |
| DALLAS AT LOS ANGELES RAMS | 1:00 |
| DETROIT AT NEW YORK GIANTS | 1:00 |
| GREEN BAY AT PHOENIX | 2:00 |
| HOUSTON AT CLEVELAND | 1:00 |
| MINNESOTA AT SEATTLE | 1:00 |



| | |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| NEW ENGLAND AT BUFFALO | 1:00 |
| NEW ORLEANS AT WASHINGTON | 1:00 |
| NEW YORK JETS AT INDIANAPOLIS | 4:00 |
| PHILADELPHIA AT ATLANTA | 1:00 |
| SAN DIEGO AT KANSAS CITY | 12:00 |
| TAMPA BAY AT SAN FRANCISCO | 1:00 |

SUNDAY NIGHT, NOVEMBER 18

| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| PITTSBURGH AT CINCINNATI | 8:00 |
|--------------------------|------|

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19

| | |
|------------------------------|------|
| LOS ANGELES RAIDERS AT MIAMI | 9:00 |
|------------------------------|------|

TWELFTH WEEKEND

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22

| | |
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| (THANKSGIVING DAY) | |
| DENVER AT DETROIT | 12:30 |
| WASHINGTON AT DALLAS | 3:00 |

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| ATLANTA AT NEW ORLEANS | 12:00 |
| CHICAGO AT MINNESOTA | 12:00 |
| INDIANAPOLIS AT CINCINNATI | 1:00 |
| KANSAS CITY AT LOS ANGELES RAIDERS | 1:00 |
| LOS ANGELES RAMS AT SAN FRANCISCO | 1:00 |
| MIAMI AT CLEVELAND | 1:00 |
| NEW ENGLAND AT PHOENIX | 2:00 |
| NEW YORK GIANTS AT PHILADELPHIA | 1:00 |
| PITTSBURGH AT NEW YORK JETS | 4:00 |
| TAMPA BAY VS. GREEN BAY AT MILWAUKEE | 12:00 |

SUNDAY NIGHT, NOVEMBER 25

| | |
|----------------------|------|
| SEATTLE AT SAN DIEGO | 5:00 |
|----------------------|------|

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| BUFFALO AT HOUSTON | 8:00 |
|--------------------|------|

THIRTEENTH WEEKEND

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| ATLANTA AT TAMPA BAY | 1:00 |
| CINCINNATI AT PITTSBURGH | 1:00 |
| DETROIT AT CHICAGO | 12:00 |
| HOUSTON AT SEATTLE | 1:00 |
| INDIANAPOLIS AT PHOENIX | 2:00 |
| KANSAS CITY AT NEW ENGLAND | 1:00 |
| LOS ANGELES RAIDERS AT DENVER | 2:00 |
| LOS ANGELES RAMS AT CLEVELAND | 1:00 |
| MIAMI AT WASHINGTON | 1:00 |
| NEW ORLEANS AT DALLAS | 3:00 |
| NEW YORK JETS AT SAN DIEGO | 1:00 |
| PHILADELPHIA AT BUFFALO | 1:00 |

1990 NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE SCHEDULE



SUNDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 2

GREEN BAY AT MINNESOTA _____ 7:00

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

NEW YORK GIANTS AT SAN FRANCISCO _____ 6:00

FOURTEENTH WEEKEND

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

OPEN DATE: 4 1989 FIFTH-PLACE TEAMS

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| BUFFALO AT INDIANAPOLIS | 1:00 |
| CHICAGO AT WASHINGTON | 4:00 |
| CLEVELAND AT HOUSTON | 12:00 |
| DENVER AT KANSAS CITY | 3:00 |
| MINNESOTA AT NEW YORK GIANTS | 1:00 |
| NEW ORLEANS AT LOS ANGELES RAMS | 1:00 |
| NEW ENGLAND AT PITTSBURGH | 1:00 |
| PHOENIX AT ATLANTA | 1:00 |
| SAN FRANCISCO AT CINCINNATI | 1:00 |
| SEATTLE VS. GREEN BAY AT MILWAUKEE | 12:00 |

SUNDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 9

PHILADELPHIA AT MIAMI _____ 8:00

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10

LOS ANGELES RAIDERS AT DETROIT _____ 9:00

FIFTEENTH WEEKEND

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| BUFFALO AT NEW YORK GIANTS | 12:30 |
| WASHINGTON AT NEW ENGLAND | 4:00 |

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| ATLANTA AT CLEVELAND | 1:00 |
| CINCINNATI AT LOS ANGELES RAIDERS | 1:00 |
| GREEN BAY AT PHILADELPHIA | 1:00 |
| HOUSTON AT KANSAS CITY | 12:00 |
| INDIANAPOLIS AT NEW YORK JETS | 1:00 |
| MINNESOTA AT TAMPA BAY | 1:00 |
| PHOENIX AT DALLAS | 12:00 |
| PITTSBURGH AT NEW ORLEANS | 12:00 |
| SAN DIEGO AT DENVER | 2:00 |
| SEATTLE AT MIAMI | 1:00 |

SUNDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 16

CHICAGO AT DETROIT _____ 8:00

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17

SAN FRANCISCO AT LOS ANGELES RAMS _____ 6:00



SIXTEENTH WEEKEND

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| DETROIT AT GREEN BAY | 11:30 |
| LOS ANGELES RAIDERS AT MINNESOTA | 3:00 |
| WASHINGTON AT INDIANAPOLIS | 8:00 |

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23

| | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| CINCINNATI AT HOUSTON | 12:00 |
| CLEVELAND AT PITTSBURGH | 1:00 |
| DALLAS AT PHILADELPHIA | 1:00 |
| KANSAS CITY AT SAN DIEGO | 1:00 |
| MIAMI AT BUFFALO | 1:00 |
| NEW ENGLAND AT NEW YORK JETS | 1:00 |
| NEW ORLEANS AT SAN FRANCISCO | 1:00 |
| NEW YORK GIANTS AT PHOENIX | 2:00 |
| LOS ANGELES RAMS AT ATLANTA | 1:00 |
| TAMPA BAY AT CHICAGO | 12:00 |

SUNDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 23

DENVER AT SEATTLE _____ 5:00

SEVENTEENTH WEEKEND

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| KANSAS CITY AT CHICAGO | 11:30 |
| PHILADELPHIA AT PHOENIX | 2:00 |

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| BUFFALO AT WASHINGTON | 1:00 |
| CLEVELAND AT CINCINNATI | 1:00 |
| DALLAS AT ATLANTA | 1:00 |
| DETROIT AT SEATTLE | 1:00 |
| GREEN BAY AT DENVER | 2:00 |
| INDIANAPOLIS AT MIAMI | 1:00 |
| NEW YORK GIANTS AT NEW ENGLAND | 1:00 |
| NEW YORK JETS AT TAMPA BAY | 4:00 |
| SAN DIEGO AT LOS ANGELES RAIDERS | 1:00 |
| SAN FRANCISCO AT MINNESOTA | 12:00 |

SUNDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 30

PITTSBURGH AT HOUSTON _____ 7:00

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31

LOS ANGELES RAMS AT NEW ORLEANS _____ 7:00



TOYOTA

"I love what you do for me."

***"It doesn't take a
mountain of money to
get to be king of the hill."***

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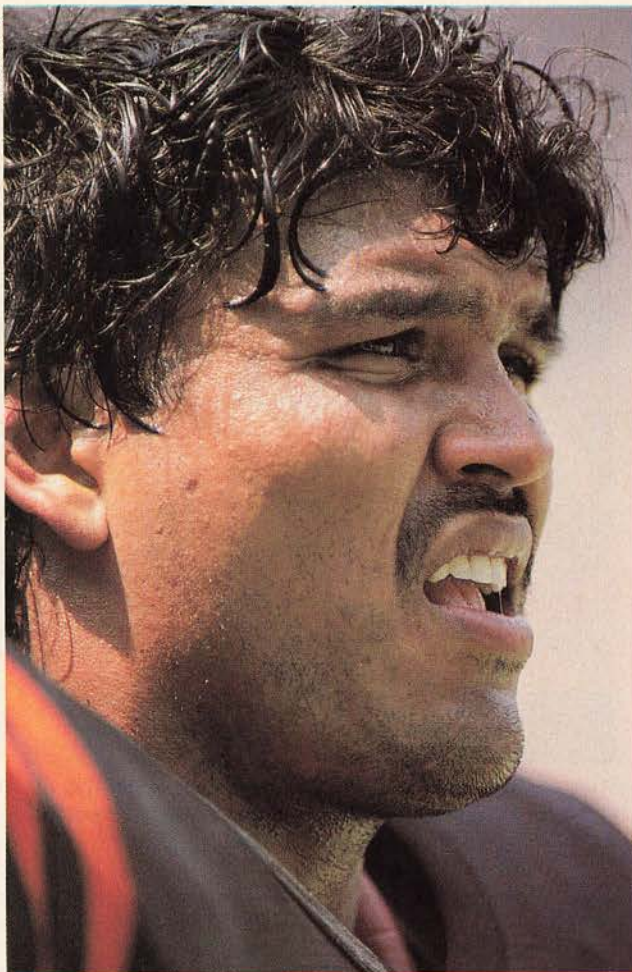
**TOYOTA SUPPORTS THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE'S "TREAD LIGHTLY" PROGRAM AND REMINDS YOU ...
WHEN YOU GO OFF-ROAD, GO EASY ON THE ENVIRONMENT.**

1 ANTHONY MUNOZ, CINCINNATI. Munoz has been the consummate NFL offensive lineman since he was the Bengals' No. 1 draft choice in 1980. Last year, he played with the enthusiasm of a rookie en route to being selected All-Pro left tackle for the ninth consecutive time. "Anthony doesn't blow guys off the line like he did when he first came here," says Bengals offensive line coach John McNally, "but that's only because the game has changed. He doesn't dominate every play of every game like he did then, but he's still the best athlete I've ever been around. He could be a linebacker or a tight end." Munoz has four career touchdown receptions on the tackle-eligible play, including one that beat Cleveland in overtime in 1984.

2 BILL FRALIC, ATLANTA. Fralic comes out of the same mold as Munoz: big, strong and an exceptional athlete. Touted in college as one of the best ever, Fralic hasn't disappointed anyone since joining the league six years ago. This past season, Fralic was selected to his fourth straight Pro Bowl despite playing the last half of the year with a fractured right hand. Under new coach Jerry Glanville, the Falcons will combine portions of the run 'n' shoot with a slug-mouth, two-back attack. Fralic will excel in the new system, which gives the Falcons a chance to rise above mediocrity for the first time since he's been there.

3 (Tie) JACKIE SLATER, LOS ANGELES RAMS, and JIM LACHEY, WASHINGTON. At 6-4, 275 pounds, Slater looks like the ideal offensive tackle; fans forget that he has maintained this remarkable size and quickness over 14 years of battling in the trenches. Slater may be an old-timer, but his desire rivals that of any rookie. "Some guys talk about leadership," says John Robinson. "Jackie is a leader." Lachey (6-6, 288 pounds) may be the league's most dominant lineman by season's end. This six-year pro out of Ohio State simply overpowers opponents. He can lock up his man, matching pound for pound, or turn him, utilizing perfect technique, to completely take him out of the play. Lachey also gets SPORT's vote for the most vicious hit of 1989. Raiders linebacker Jerry Robinson was just picked off a Mark Rypien pass and was headed for the opposite end zone when Lachey got

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN



Ten years after being the Bengals' No. 1 pick, left tackle Anthony Munoz is as good as ever. He's been named All-Pro nine consecutive times.

off the ground (where he had pinned his man), ran 40 yards cross-field, and simply crushed Robinson, who fumbled. Lachey recovered. "Maybe the best single play by an offensive lineman I've ever seen," says analyst John Madden. With Lachey leading the counterplay, resurgent Washington will return to the playoffs.

5 GUY MCINTYRE, SAN FRANCISCO. McIntyre is not very large (6-3, 264) by O-line standards, but versatility alone earns him a spot in our Top 10. A legitimate right guard, McIntyre was flip-flopped at left guard several times (reversing all his assignments) due to injuries and assignments. "He is unbelievable," says the 49ers'

Seifert. "His ability to pull left or right is a rarity among linemen."

6 COURTNEY HALL, SAN DIEGO. Courtney Hall is proving that experience isn't everything; there is something to be said for pure ability. Hall started every game as a rookie and impressed some tough critics. "Great quickness, quick hands, exceptional strength... he has the whole package," says the Raiders' Howie Long. Scouts compare Hall to former Miami center Dwight Stephenson, who, when healthy, was considered the league's best. The Chargers, with the likes of Tolliver and receiver Anthony Miller, are turning the corner, but the protection of Courtney Hall will make

the difference.

7 GARY ZIMMERMAN, MINNESOTA. The insiders we spoke to about Zimmerman kept repeating the same thing: intelligence. "Like all linemen, he's big and strong [6-6, 284 pounds]," says a scout. "But he not only uses his strength, he uses his head. He gets position on his man quicker than anybody in the league, and he knows how to maintain it." Zimmerman is perhaps the most controlled lineman in the league: perfect technique, even temperament, level emotion and effective leadership.

8 (Tie) MIKE MUNCHAK and BRUCE MATTHEWS, HOUSTON. Munchak and Matthews form the best guard tandem in the league. Last year, they led an offensive line that refused to give up a sack for six games. The Oilers have scrapped the two-back offense in favor of the run 'n' shoot, a move that will make Munchak and Matthews even more dominant in 1990. The new scheme will double the amount of pass blocking done by the Oilers' line, and Matthews and Munchak may be the best pass blockers in the NFL.

10 JAY HILGENBERG, CHICAGO. Hilgenberg has started 100 consecutive games. And he's done more than play. "He's dominated," says head coach Mike Ditka. Like McIntyre, Hilgenberg is not as big (6-3, 260 pounds) as many of his peers, but his opponents know to button their chinstraps. "He doesn't really have the size you look for, and he's not the best athlete, but he's productive," says Ditka. "He gets it done on hard work, intelligence, technique and competitiveness." Hilgenberg plays every snap like it's his last, and that dedication has put him in the last five Pro Bowls. The Bears need help to return to the playoffs, but Hilgenberg will be a constant in a 1990 season that may give Ditka heartburn.

WHO'S MISSING

Tom Newberry, Los Angeles Rams: Excellent technique. Future top-fiver.
Randall McDaniel, Minnesota: Young, tons of ability. Could be a great one.

1 REGGIE WHITE, PHILADELPHIA. If defensive linemen were rated like quarterbacks, White would be their Joe Montana. White, at 6-5, 285 pounds, improves the Eagles' defense "at least 25 percent," says the Eagles' Ryan, "because he doesn't give the quarterback and receivers time to let the patterns develop." Despite constant double and triple teams, White still has managed 81 sacks in 73 games. He plays the run and pass with equal greatness. A future Hall of Famer, White was recently selected to the Hall's NFL Team of the '80s.

2 BRUCE SMITH, BUFFALO. The six-year veteran out of Virginia Tech is already Buffalo's career leader in sacks (57.5) and has quickly become the AFC's most dominant lineman. Smith is a master of the rip and spin; combining brute strength and explosive speed, he physically overwhelms opponents, then spins off the block into the quarterback. He is the sole difference between Buffalo having a poor defensive line and a great one.

3 KEITH MILLARD, MINNESOTA. Ask any scout about Millard, and he'll likely use words like "nasty" or "physical" or "animal." Millard is only 6-5, 260 pounds, but the six-year veteran plays like he weighs 300. Watch film of Millard, and you'll spot one thing over and over: backside pursuit. "He has incredible acceleration," says the Vikings' Peters. "He explodes when he's chasing somebody from behind. He simply runs them down." He's unselfish too, usually occupying two or three offensive linemen while other Vikings make the big sacks. But don't kid yourself: Millard is the most valuable tackle in the league.

4 KEVIN GREENE, LOS ANGELES RAMS. Greene is listed on the Rams' depth chart as a linebacker, but SPORT has put him with the defensive linemen only because of his ability to rush the passer as a down lineman in obvious passing situations—he tallied 16½ sacks last year, fourth best in the NFL. "Kevin Greene has all the tools you look for in a defensive end," says LA's Robinson. "He's big [6-3, 250], has great lateral movement and is extremely physical." Most of all, he thrives on pressure, a critical point for playoff-bound teams. Robinson says Greene has the ability to "turn it up a

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN



They might as well start dusting off a spot in the Hall of Fame for Philadelphia's Reggie White. Nothing can stop football's greatest defensive lineman.

notch" in the big games, and he cites last year's playoff victory over Philadelphia as proof: Greene had five unassisted tackles, two sacks and recovered a fumble late in the game.

5 MICHAEL CARTER, SAN FRANCISCO. SPORT Magazine predicts that with sheer determination, Michael Carter will return and be a force around the NFL. "If he locks you up," says an opposing center, "you can forget it." Injuries sidelined Carter for much of 1989, giving him a real appetite for the 1990 season. "If you're going to play a three-man front, Michael is the ideal nose guard," says San Francisco's Seifert. "He has great quickness, strength and leverage. And he's very, very intense."

6 MICHAEL DEAN PERRY, CLEVELAND. For a short time, Perry was labeled as the "younger brother of the Fridge." This year, Michael Dean [see page 16] will cast

a formidable shadow of his own. Perry's cocked stance, reminiscent of the retired Joe Klecko's, gives him an advantage over most offensive linemen because of his explosiveness. "He has the ability to line up on one side and beat you to the other side," says Cincinnati tackle Bruce Reimers. "He puts relentless pressure on everybody he plays." By the way, little brother recorded more sacks in his rookie year than big brother has ever had in a single season.

7 BURT GROSSMAN, SAN DIEGO. Grossman was one of the reasons why the Chargers defensive line led the AFC last year with 48 sacks. A controversial first-round draft choice in 1989, Grossman rewarded the Chargers with 10 sacks, the most by a Chargers rookie lineman since Leslie O'Neal in 1986. Grossman led the team with 45 quarterback hits and 38 quarterback pressures. Named to almost every all-rookie team, the 6-6,

270-pound Grossman leads a staple full of young thoroughbreds on the Chargers fast-improving defense.

8 RAY CHILDRESS, HOUSTON. Former Houston head coach Jerry Glanville used to say that "Ray Childress knows one speed, and that's wide open." Nobody realized just how wide open, though, until Childress fractured his leg in week 14 last year and was unable to finish the season. The Oilers' pass rush disappeared, as did their ability to stop the run. Prior to his injury, Childress traveled the Oilers' defensive line like a tanker cleanup crew as injuries forced him to plug a different hole every week. The Oilers drafted much-needed defensive help, however, and if Childress can concentrate on a single position—defensive tackle—he could well develop into the league's best.

9 JEROME BROWN, PHILADELPHIA. Brown is one big reason why White will continue to be the league's most dominant lineman for years to come. Because of Brown at tackle, you can't double-team White. "Jerome is what I call the tempo guy," says defensive line coach Dale Haupt. "He takes a lot of pressure off Reggie." At one time, scouts questioned the former Miami Hurricanes star's pain tolerance. But he hushed critics by playing most of last season with a bruised shoulder and bum knee. "The big turnaround for Jerome was his attitude," says a coach. "He finally realized, to play at this level, it takes more than just ability."

10 CHRIS DOLEMAN, MINNESOTA. Thanks largely to defensive tackle Millard, Doleman has become a devastating pass rusher; last year he totaled a team-high 21 sacks. "He's really a dominating player and an excellent inside pass rusher," says an NFC Central coach. "But it's easier for him to dominate because he plays next to Keith Millard."

WHO'S MISSING

Charles Mann, Washington: Not the same player without Dexter Manley around. He'll be double- and triple-teamed. **Jerry Ball, Detroit:** Pure potential. Will emerge soon.

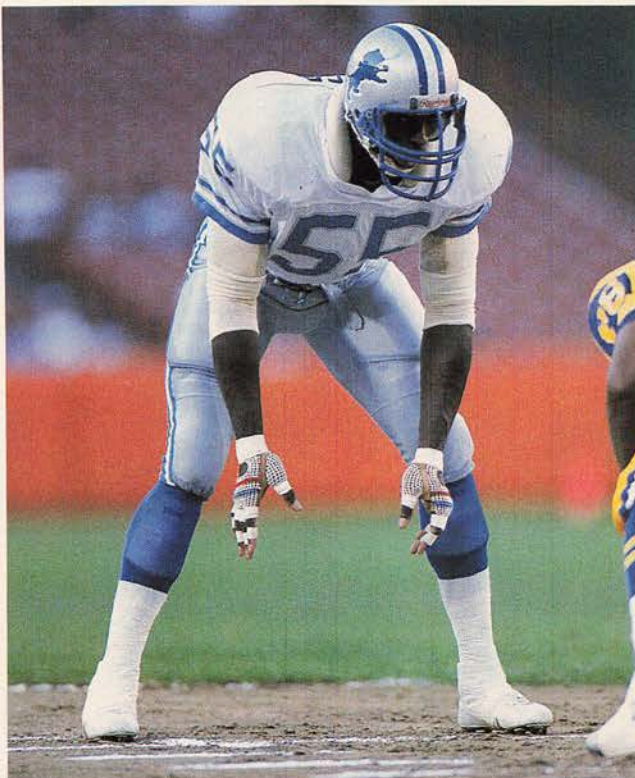
LINEBACKERS

1 DARRYL TALLEY, BUFFALO. Only one Buffalo linebacker started every game, and it wasn't Cornelius Bennett or Shane Conlan. It was little-known right outside linebacker Darryl Talley. In his eighth year out of West Virginia, Talley made 97 tackles—40 more than either of his more celebrated teammates—and he had six sacks. "Darryl may be the most underrated player in the game," understates head coach Marv Levy. Talley added two blocked punts to his final numbers and was the team's defensive MVP. Look for the unsung, blue-collar Talley to make his first Pro Bowl in 1990 as he continues to do the work while Bennett and Conlan count their newspaper clippings.

2 MICHAEL COFER, DETROIT. Shoulder and arch injuries severely limited Cofer's effectiveness last year. Despite these setbacks, he still had 9.0 sacks and led the Lions for the third consecutive year. Cofer will embrace the 1990 season with new defensive talent and a vastly improved Lions offense that will take more pressure off the frequently weary Detroit defense. "I look for him to have a Pro Bowl season," says Detroit head coach Wayne Fontes. "He never complains; he never slacks up. He's the best outside linebacker in the league."

3 TIM HARRIS, GREEN BAY. Many scouts and personnel directors believe Harris is the NFL's best outside linebacker, and he probably was last year. Harris has a great under-move on the blitz and simply overpowers anybody in his way. "You have to block him with a tackle," says a scout. "He'll kill a running back." Harris, who is generally more effective chasing the ball than at the point of attack, had 86 tackles and 19.5 quarterback sacks in 1989, the second-best total in Packers history.

4 LAWRENCE TAYLOR, NEW YORK GIANTS. Taylor, in what many considered an off year for the standout linebacker, still finished with 15 sacks, down just a half-sack from 1988. "Taylor still shows no signs of letting up," says Parcells. Off the field, Taylor, now 31, has become much less controversial, but he still conducts business as usual between the sidelines. "Lawrence Taylor, as he has for years, still controls the game," says Buffalo's Butler.



Underrated Detroit linebacker Michael Cofer collected a team-leading 9.0 sacks—and he missed nine games due to injuries.

5 KARL MECKLENBURG, DENVER. Mecklenburg made the Pro Bowl in 1989 for the fourth time in five years. For that, he can thank Denver's new defensive system under assistant coach Wade Phillips. In the new scheme, Mecklenburg wasn't called on to play five different positions (as he had been in the past), and he excelled from his right inside linebacker spot. He led the team with 143 tackles, posted 7.5 sacks, four fumble recoveries and forced two fumbles. Mecklenburg is at his best as a big-play defender.

6 ANDRE TIPPETT, NEW ENGLAND. Tippet may have missed all of last season due to injuries, but he'll still cause the hearts of opposing offensive linemen to tremble. He will remain unstoppable on the blitz from the open side and still plays both sides in the 4-3 defense. In addition, his ex-

cellent quickness will make him equally effective when he lines up as a down lineman. "Andre is not as effective in pass coverage," says a scout. "But he may be the best as far as pass-rush ability."

7 VAUGHAN JOHNSON, NEW ORLEANS. Johnson is a product of good coaching and excellent technique. Though he lacks the athleticism of many of his colleagues, he makes up for it with hard work. "Very few linebackers can dominate from inside," says a scout. Which makes Johnson's heroics pretty remarkable. Against the Rams last season, Johnson had nine tackles, and a sack. "Outside guys can control games, but inside players are usually limited by the scheme," says head coach Jim Mora. "But not Johnson. He makes the play wherever it is."

8 MIKE SINGLETARY, CHICAGO. Some NFL scouts believe that Singletary's ability is slipping. One team had him rated No. 1 in 1984 and 1985, No. 2 in 1986 and 1987, but No. 21 in 1988 and No. 25 in 1989. Nevertheless, his total of 151 tackles for last season was astounding, and he made his seventh trip to the Pro Bowl. "You look at scouting reports, and it hints that his best days may be behind him," says a scout. "But then you look at his productivity and shake your head."

9 DUANE BICKETT, INDIANAPOLIS. Colts head coach Ron Meyer calls inside linebacker Bickett "the heart and soul" of the Colts defense. While many say the sixth-year player has slowed considerably, he managed enough speed last year to lead the Colts with a team-high 11 quarterback pressures. He finished the season with 100 tackles, including eight sacks, the most of any Colts linebacker. Scouts rate Bickett as a top combination outside linebacker who can play the run, play the pass and often be utilized as the nickel pass rusher.

10 CLAY MATTHEWS, CLEVELAND. In an era of specialization, Matthews is a throwback to old times: He is out there on every defensive play, regardless of down or distance, and he still volunteers for special teams. He finished last season with 113 tackles and 25 quarterback pressures, proving that this 13-year veteran can still run circles around the youngsters. Matthews may be the NFL's last iron man, capable of doing it all defensively. In a 17-7 victory over Seattle, he played in a team-high 59 plays and returned an interception 25 yards to set up the winning score. Four times, he had 10-plus tackles in a single contest, and he didn't miss a game.

WHO'S MISSING

Sam Mills, New Orleans: Lives in the shadows of Vaughan Johnson and Ricky Jackson, but has accomplished more at his height than scouts thought he would. **Derrick Thomas, Kansas City:** May be the best in a few years. Still needs work in coverage.

1 JOEY BROWNER, MINNESOTA. Browner may be the craftiest, nastiest safety in the game, and he's a large reason why the Vikings' defense was the league's top-ranked over the entire 1989 season. Browner was second on the team with 112 tackles. "Few people run through one of his tackles," says Minnesota's Peters. That includes Barry Sanders, the NFC's leading rusher. Last year, Sanders burst through the line of scrimmage, skirted two linebackers and burst into the secondary, where Browner applied a hit that sounded like a gunshot. "I hadn't seen anybody stop Barry one-on-one," says Detroit assistant Mouse Davis. "But Browner just nailed his ass."

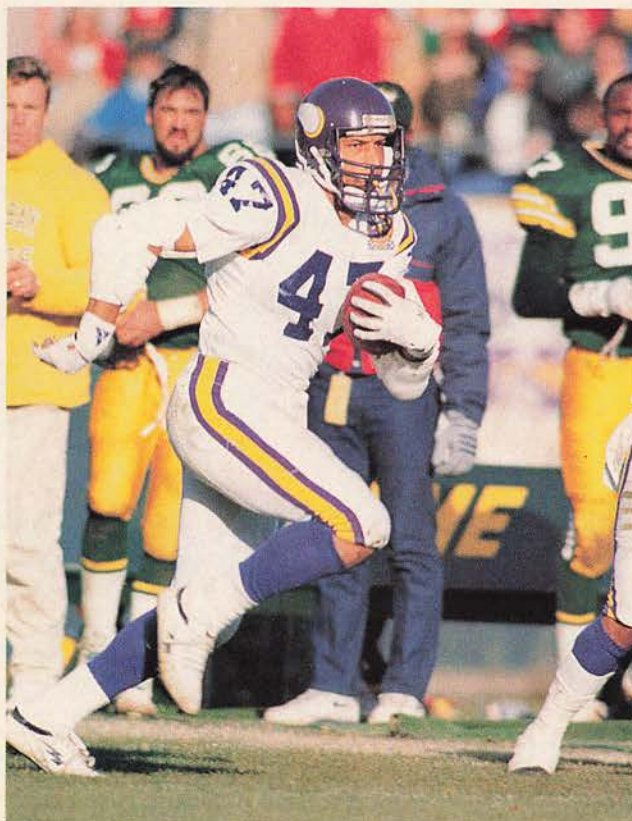
2 RONNIE LOTT, SAN FRANCISCO. Nobody brings such determined leadership to the game as safety Lott. "Players like Ronnie Lott win Super Bowls," says Seifert. "He's dedicated to his job." And, like Browner (his former teammate at USC), he will take your head off if the opportunity presents itself. Lott missed five games with an ankle injury, but his worth was apparent in post-season, when he picked off a pass against the Vikings and Rams. A healthy Lott will return to his dominating form in his 10th season.

3 DAVID FULCHER, CINCINNATI. When scouts talk about Fulcher, they're all amazed that somebody that size (6-3, 228) has that kind of speed. Built like a linebacker, Fulcher plays strong safety with the dexterity of a much smaller man. He led the Bengals in tackles with 107, intercepted eight passes and recovered four fumbles. "David has not only made the big plays," says head coach Sam Wyche, "but he's been such a force on defense that he has forced opponents to change their game plans completely."

4 STEVE ATWATER, DENVER. It took little time for Atwater to make his presence felt as Denver's first-round pick, as he bumped Mike Harden from the starting position at free safety. In fact, Atwater started every game as a rookie, led the Broncos defense with 86 first hits, was second on the squad with 129 total tackles and intercepted three passes. And he's still learning.

5 (Tie) LOUIS OLIVER and JARVIS WILLIAMS, MIAMI. It's only been a

DEFENSIVE BACKS



Minnesota's Joey Browner has not only busted into Ronnie Lott territory, he's created a new level of excellence at his position.

few years since fans and pundits alike were criticizing the Miami pass defense. Times have changed, though, as the Dolphins now boast one of the best secondaries in the NFL. Williams and Oliver will undisputedly be the best safety tandem in the AFC in 1990. And they'll be helped along by the addition of former San Francisco 49er Tim McKyer, a discontented but talented corner. Despite missing all of training camp and playing three games with a badly bruised right shoulder, Oliver led the Dolphins in interceptions (4) as a rookie. Williams, who started all 16 games in 1988 as a rookie, again didn't miss a game in '89. "It hasn't shown up in the statistics yet, but we've improved defensively," says Don Shula. "Our coverage in the secondary will only get better as those two guys continue to play together."

7 ERIK MCMILLAN, NEW YORK JETS. McMillan had lots of critics when the Jets made the free safety their third-round pick in 1988. But nobody was talking after last year, when McMillan was the lone bright spot on a poor team. Despite the Jets' 4-12 record, McMillan made the Pro Bowl. At midseason, with the Jets mired in a 13-quarter slump during which they failed to score a touchdown, McMillan scored three on defense by himself. He returned two recovered fumbles for touchdowns, including a 45-yard sprint against San Francisco and a 74-yard return against New Orleans. He also had a 92-yard interception against Indianapolis. No stranger to punishment, McMillan made 95 tackles, forced two fumbles and had two quarterback sacks.

8 BENNIE BLADES, DETROIT. The Lions plan to make Blades the full-time

free safety this year, a move that will be critical in the progress of one of the league's biggest hitters. He was at free safety last year against the Vikings when Minnesota receiver Anthony Carter split the seam down the middle. Blades and Chris Spielman crushed Carter, sending his helmet rolling on the field. "I thought I ripped his head off," Blades said later. Although his pure cover ability is still suspect, Blades matured in 1989, playing most of the season with an assortment of injuries. "He can play either safety position," says the Lions' Fontes, "but we're going to start him at free, where we think he can make more plays."

9 ROD WOODSON, PITTSBURGH. Steelers fans have cornerback Woodson to thank for their team advancing to Denver in the divisional round of the AFC playoffs. It was his crushing textbook hit on Houston tailback Lorenzo White that forced the fumble that led to Gary Anderson's winning overtime field goal. Woodson, who made the Pro Bowl as a kick returner (he led the NFL with a 27.3 average), had three interceptions, forced four fumbles, recovered three and defended a whopping 18 passes. In man coverage, he's the best corner in the AFC. Look for second-year strong safety Carnell Lake to take some pressure off him in '90.

10 BUBBA MCDOWELL, HOUSTON. Disappointed after being a third-round pick in 1989, safety McDowell set out to prove scouts wrong. He started all 16 games and was second on the Oilers in solo tackles, and forced four fumbles. In addition to being a force at safety, he dominated on special teams, blocking two punts and forcing a fumble on a kickoff against Cincinnati that led to a victory. What's more, McDowell will improve as he grows accustomed to Houston's complicated cover schemes. ★

WHO'S MISSING

Gil Byrd, San Diego: A budding superstar who's fast emerging. **Carl Lee, Minnesota:** Consistent. **Frank Minnifield, Cleveland Browns:** His best days are behind him and AFC receivers know it.

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Step aside, Eric. Push over, Herschel. Make way for Christian Okoye and Barry Sanders. Who?

You know, Christian and Barry. The guys who led your conferences in rushing last season—the conferences that once belonged to you. Think your past rushing titles (five for Eric Dickerson, one for Herschel Walker) make you the current kings?

Think again.

If you thought it was an aberration, forget it. Okoye and Sanders elbowed and bullied and slashed their way into your territory. They're here to stay.

These guys have to be

taken seriously.

Remember, Okoye—the mammoth 253-pound Nigerian of the Kansas City Chiefs—has played football for only six years—and two of those years were spent at that world-renowned college football factory: Azusa Pacific University. Imagine what Okoye will do when he knows what he's doing.

And remember also, Sanders is not only the pip-

squeak of NFL running backs at 5-foot-8, but he gained 1,470 yards last year as a rookie for Detroit—in an offense emphasizing the pass, no less.

Moreover, both running backs were the primary reasons their clubs doubled their victory total of the previous year.

Amazing, huh?

Was it a fluke?

Not if you're talking to

Okoye.

"I feel that I'm on equal par with Dickerson and Walker," he says. "It's just a matter of staying healthy and given the opportunity to play. I'm the No. 1 rusher going into 1990 simply because I led the league in that category."

Okoye, who led the NFL with 1,480 yards, finds the pro league easier than the NAIA's Golden State Athletic Conference, which is not to be confused with the Big Ten.

"A lot of linemen miss their blocks in the college game," he says. "I feel that with professional blockers in the NFL, the field is all mine, and I can run anywhere I want."

There are a few things Okoye has to learn. Like holding onto the ball, for one. He fumbled eight times last season in heavy traffic.

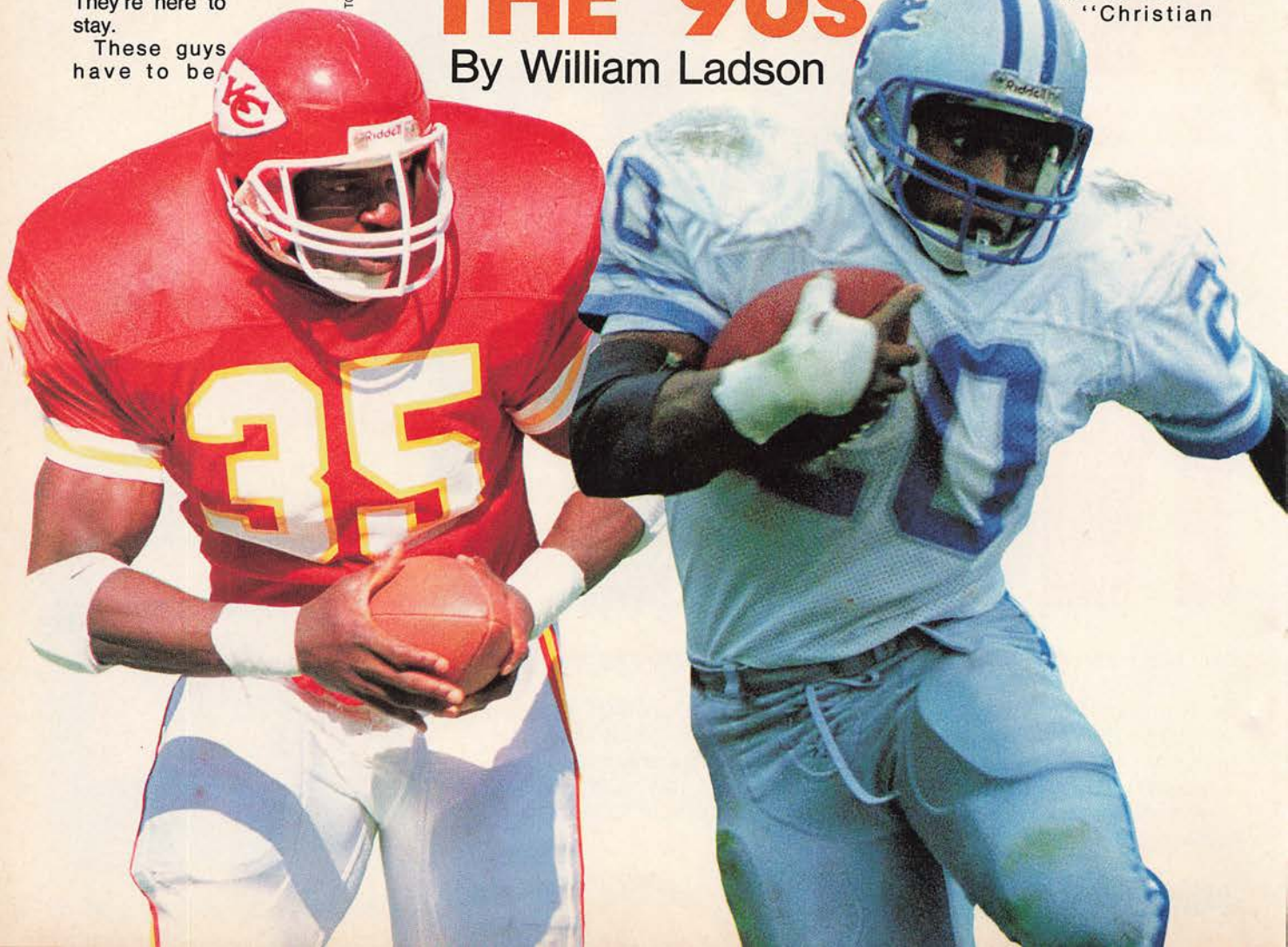
Chiefs offensive coordinator Joe Pendry has the cure.

"Christian

**QUICK NOW, NAME THE
REIGNING NFL RUSHING
KINGS. MR. DICKERSON,
MEET MR. OKOYE AND
MR. SANDERS**

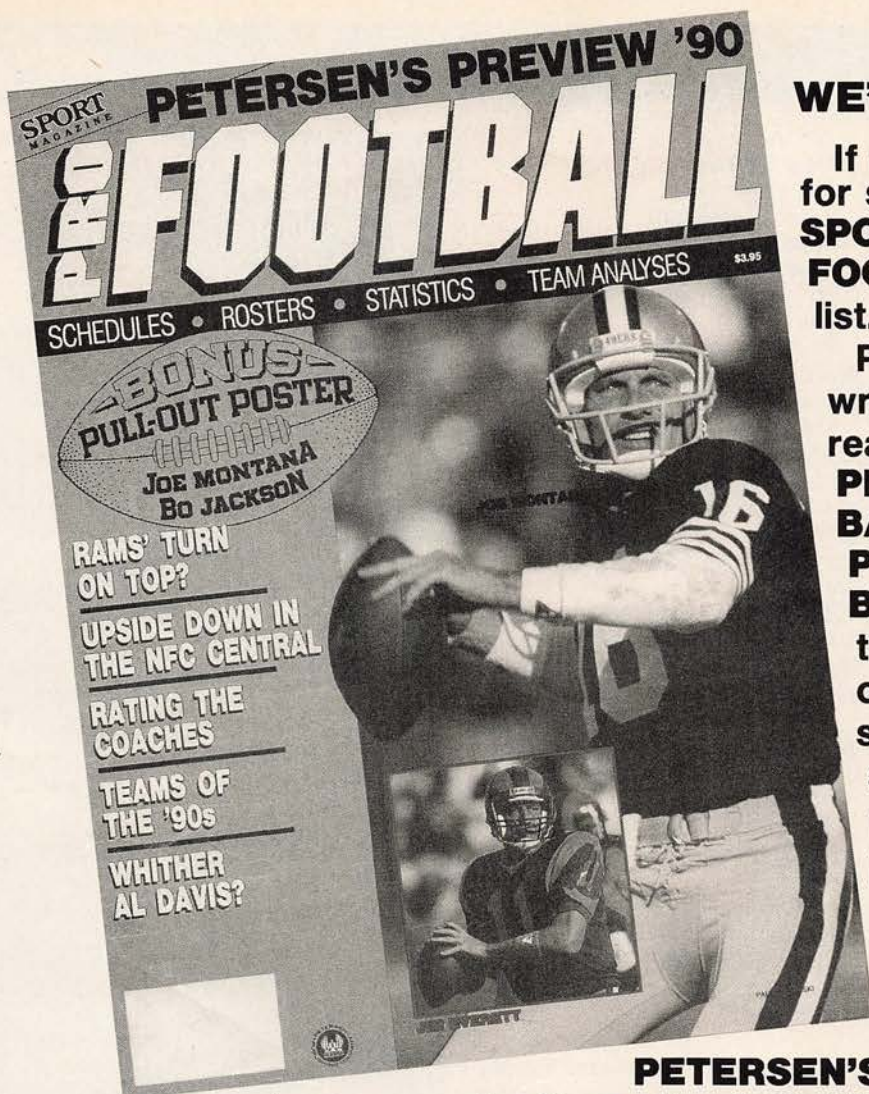
**TWO FOR
THE '90s**

By William Ladson



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- ***BONUS*** JOE MONTANA/BO JACKSON PULL-OUT POSTER

has to learn to follow blocking schemes and understand defenses," he says.

Okoye can compensate for some of his weaknesses with that huge frame of his bulldozing through linemen. Or he can use his speed to run around them.

"Christian's biggest asset is his size and speed," says Bruce Arians, the Chiefs running back coach. "He's able to take a play and power for four yards out of it, even though it looks like a no gain."

Okoye realizes he has a bright future, so he doesn't let this one-year-flash stuff disturb him.

"I realize that people think I'm a fluke," he says. "But I'm not going to let that bother me."

Ditto for Sanders, the 1988 Heisman Trophy winner who fled Oklahoma State after his junior year to cash his NFL lottery ticket. He didn't let all that small talk bother him last year—the talk about him being too small to do anything significant in the NFL.

Leading the NFC in rushing, Sanders proved that a running back can thrive in offensive coordinator Mouse Davis' passing-oriented run 'n' shoot offense.

"[The run 'n' shoot] gives excellent running lanes because the defenses are always dropping back for the pass," says Davis.

Says Lions head coach Wayne Fontes: "During the first eight games, defenses were looking for us to pass. So then we had to use Barry a lot."

Then, during the last eight games, when the run 'n' shoot was no longer a mystery, opponents were looking to stop Sanders. Seldom did they succeed.

At first, Sanders had his doubts about fitting into Detroit's system.

"The thought crossed my mind of pulling a John Elway number and asking the Lions to trade me, knowing that they had a passing oriented scheme," he says. "But I wanted to change their attitude and make them respect the run."

That they did.

Despite the run 'n' shoot failure last year, Fontes is reviving the fascinating system that will now feature another Heisman Trophy winner: Andre Ware.

That means less rushing chances for Sanders in 1990, according to Fontes. Big deal. Now Sanders will get a chance to prove he can pass catch.

"We're putting Barry in the slot position so we can get him into the passing game," says Fontes. "If I can get him involved in the passing game, I wouldn't be surprised if he gained 1,000 yards."

After last year, nothing Sanders—or Okoye—does will be a surprise. ★

Jim Brown.
Gale Sayers.
O.J. Simpson.
Earnest Jackson.
Earnest Jackson?

How'd he finagle his way onto such an elite list of NFL running backs?

Well, this may come as a jolt, but like Brown, Sayers and O.J., Jackson was a rushing champ.

Make that anonymous rushing champ.

He has company in this category of elite unknowns. Just scan the list of rushing titlists. Some of the names will surprise you: *Dick Post?* *Jim Otis?*

They're non-household names. They're guys who defied reality. Guys who beat the odds. Stumpers in a game of sports trivia.

After all, how many people know Jackson, then of the San Diego Chargers, won the 1984 AFC rushing crown?

"Not many," he says. "A lot of people don't even know I played in the NFL."

Says Otis, who won the '75 NFC rushing crown (1,076 yards) with the St. Louis Cardinals: "The only place I was a household name was in my own house." ***

Jackson admits he was "the guy you'd least expect to win a rushing title."

He was the 202nd player selected in the 1983 NFL draft, the 103rd selected in the '83 USFL draft. He carried the ball only 11 times as a Chargers rookie and opened the '84 season as the No. 4 back.

When Chuck Muncie, Jewel Thomas and Pete Johnson were unable to move the ball consistently, the desperate Chargers handed the ball to Jackson, who proceeded to become one of the shrewdest 202nd selections ever.

"It was pure luck that I led the league in rushing," he says. "I don't think I was that good."

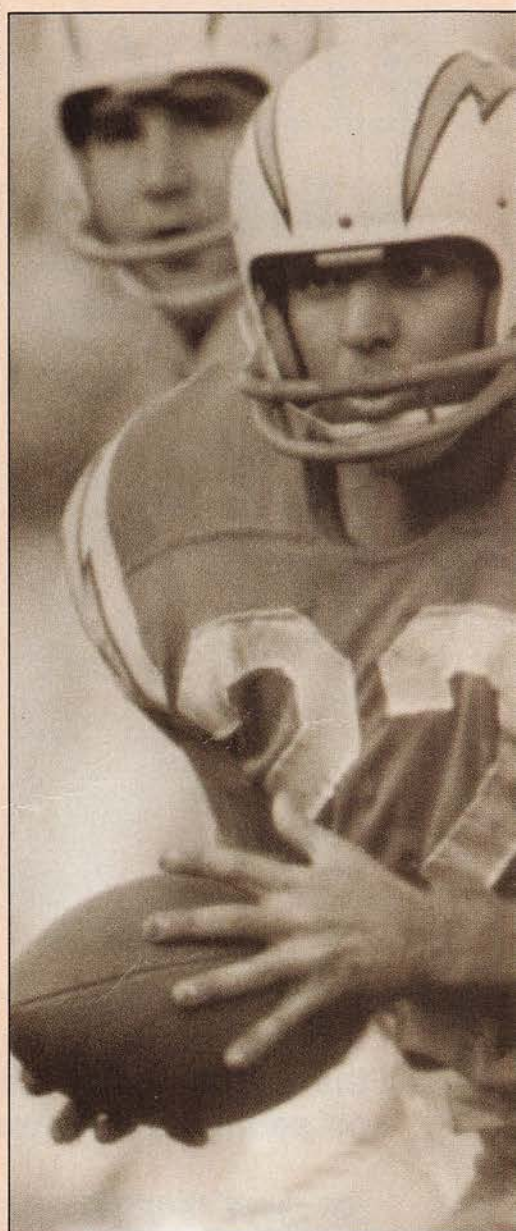
Neither did the Chargers, who immediately dealt him to Philadelphia, where he put together another stellar season, rushing for 1,028 yards.

His reward?

His release papers.

Besides being 1.) an anonymous rushing champ, 2.) the only rushing leader traded and released following 1,000-yard seasons and 3.) the

SPORT ARCHIVE



Dick Post: King today, gone tomorrow.

only rushing champ dumped by Indianapolis and Pittsburgh in the same season, Jackson was known for his fervency of baseball- and football-card collecting. So it should come as no surprise to his former mates that Jackson owns a baseball/football-card shop—"Card Sharks"—located outside Pittsburgh.

What about your card, Earnest? What's it worth? "About a buck," he says.



When Otis, a big, bruising fullback, was challenging flashy and speedy running backs for the 1975 rushing title, he raised more than a few eyebrows.

After all, he had amassed a grand total of 721 yards in his first four seasons combined and had averaged 277 yards per year in his first five seasons.

"When I was closing in on the title, [teammate] Terry Metcalf called a meeting before the final game of the season," Otis says. "He told me to hop on a table, then got everyone's attention, pointed to me and said, 'Guys, take a good look because this is the last white fullback who'll ever win a rushing title.' The room broke up in

laughter."

Appropriate laughter. Otis' career—pre-Cardinals, that is—was a one-liner. Two teams gave up on him before he arrived in St. Louis.

"Until I got to St. Louis, I was never used," Otis says. "I never was given an opportunity to get into the continuity of the offense. Then, before the '75 season, I sat down with [then-St. Louis assistant coach] Jim Hanifan, and we diagrammed an off-tackle play that we could run nine different ways just by changing the blocking schemes. I pleaded with him, 'Coach, we gotta use this play.'"

They did and they created a monster—and an NFL rushing champ.

"I ran the play all season," says Otis. "Must've gained about 600, 700 yards alone on that play."

He still deals in real estate, but instead of running on it, Otis sells it in St. Louis.

"To win a rushing title, you have to have a lot of long runs," he says. "I was the exception. I banged around inside the trenches for the short yards, the tough yards."

Just about everyone in Kettle Falls, Washington, knows Dick Post—but as a blacksmith and horse breeder, not the 1969 AFL rushing champ.

When folks in Kettle Falls hear about Post's rushing exploits, they say, "Good. Now finish with them shoes there."

Post says, "Anything you've done in the past doesn't carry any weight here."

The 873 yards Post posted for the Chargers to win the rushing crown is the lowest since 1951 (excluding the 1982 strike season).

"I would have rushed for over 1,000 yards if the coach [Sid Gillman] hadn't benched me for most of five games," he says. "I got about 35 yards in those five games combined—and over 800 yards in the other nine games. To this day, I still don't know why he didn't play me. I think it was because my contract was coming up."

Two years after his rushing-title season, Post was traded for Joe Dawkins III, who not only never won a rushing title, but only averaged 381 yards per season for his career.

—Rick Weinberg

1990 PRO FOOTBALL PREVIEW

NEXT MONTH IN
SPORT

1990 COLLEGE FOOTBALL PREVIEW

NEXT MONTH IN
SPORT



Some football players will do *anything* to win. *Absolutely anything.*

They'll eat certain foods at a particular time in a certain spot on game days. They'll dress in particular duds. They'll listen to certain

from draining out," says Parcels.

When it comes to superstitions, some people do some strange things.

Take the Houston Oilers.

Seems that whenever running back Lorenzo White missed the team bus, arrived at the airport late and was the last to board the airplane, the Oilers usually won.

Well, you can just imagine what happened when White sauntered toward the team bus *on time* one day. His teammates said, as politely as possible,

"Yo, Lo. Get lost for an hour or so."

Funny, White was a victim of another Oilers superstition. They noticed that White ran better when he wore more gold jewelry than usual. From that moment on, he wore more gold around his neck than the Gabor sisters combined.

Don't ever underestimate athletes. Or coaches. Or owners. Or even fans, for that matter.

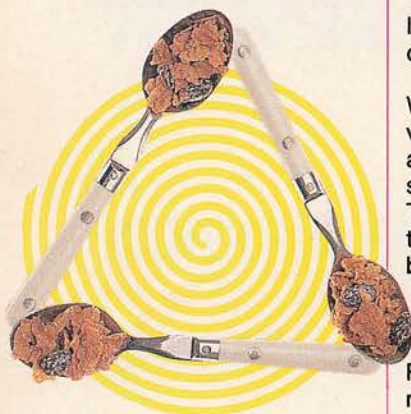
Some players and coaches will analyze their daily routines or rituals, and if a winning pattern devel-

ops, they won't deviate. Not one bit.

That's why Jets offensive lineman Dan Alexander has worn the same belt on his uniform for 13 seasons.

That's why Patriots wide receiver Irving Fryar stands last in line on the left side during the national anthem at home games—and last in line

Houston Oilers running back Lorenzo White noticed he ran better with a neck load of gold jewelry.



Tight end Todd Christensen didn't cut his curly locks to revitalize his career. He switched to Raisin Bran.

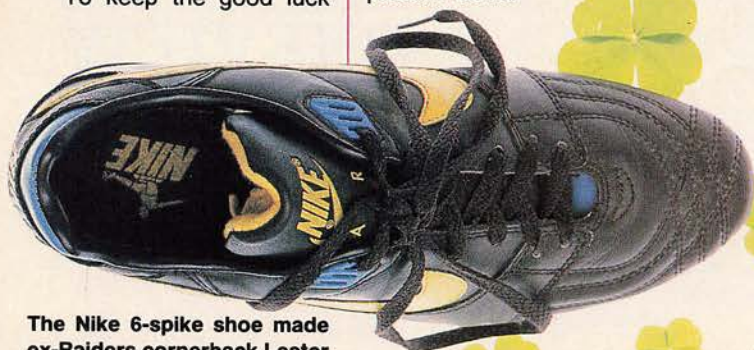
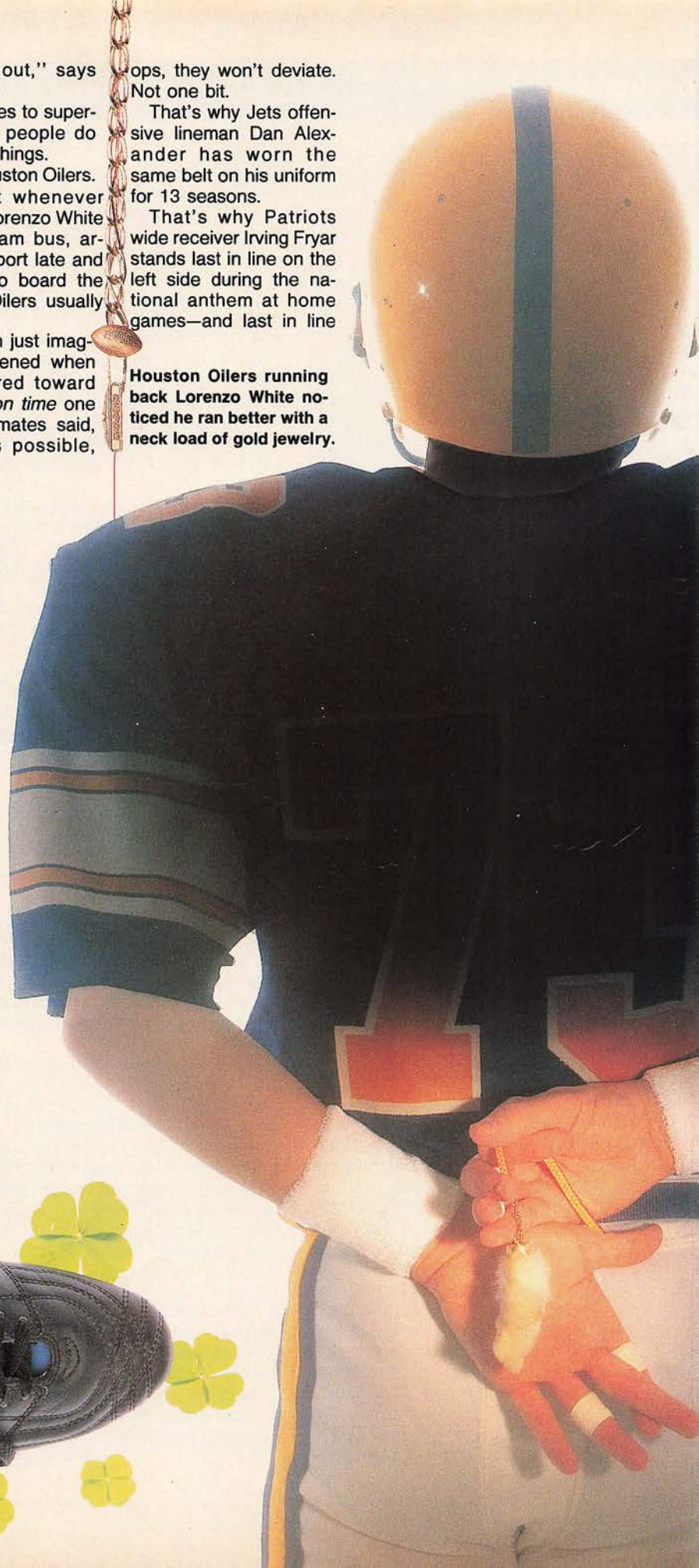
songs.

They'll even stand a particular way—or in a certain spot—during the national anthem or opening kickoff.

Welcome to the land of superstitions, NFL style.

Bill Parcels, head coach of the New York Giants, has 200 miniature elephants facing the doorway in his office. All 200 have their trunks raised.

"To keep the good luck



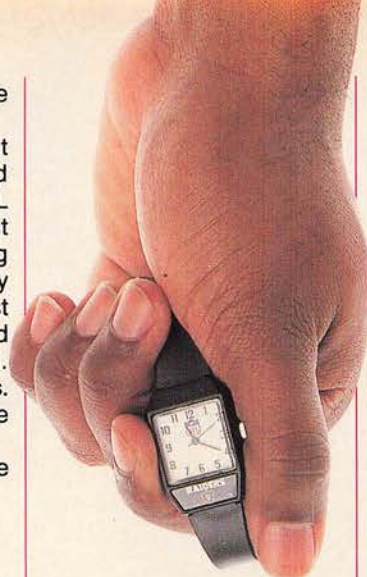
The Nike 6-spike shoe made ex-Raiders cornerback Lester Hayes feel "invincible."

on the right side during the anthem at road games.

Flamboyant and eloquent conversationalist Todd Christensen, a former NFL tight end, couldn't figure out why his career was going nowhere. He was drafted by the Cowboys, spent his first year on injured reserve and was ultimately released. Then he joined the Giants. After playing one game, he was cut.

He knew his unfortunate

Timing is of utmost importance to superstitious players and coaches.

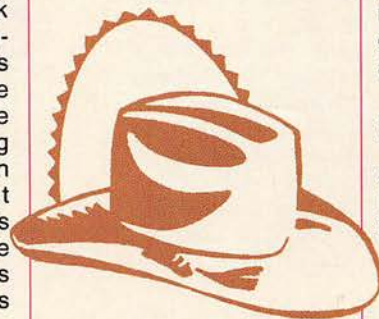


NFL LUCKY CHARMS

SOMETIMES
WINNING
REQUIRES
HELP
FROM THE
UNKNOWN
By Raymond
Harper

string of bad luck couldn't have anything to do with his level of talent. The guy was good. So he figured something had to be altered in his lifestyle. But what? Cut off all his hair? Sleep on the other side of his bed? Change his wardrobe?

Some players always keep a rabbit's foot handy.



Jerry Glanville's "lucky" cowboy hat may have turned the Falcons' road fortunes around.

Nope.

How about switching his game-day breakfast of french toast for Raisin Bran?

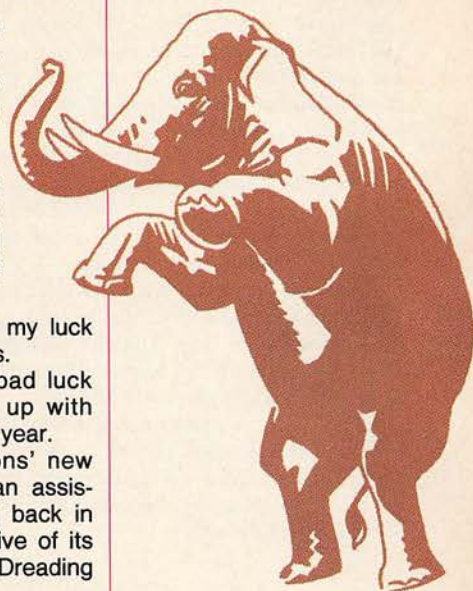
Voila!

Christensen went on to become a five-time Pro Bowl selection with the Raiders.

"Had to change my luck somehow," he says.

This good luck-bad luck syndrome caught up with Jerry Glanville one year.

When the Falcons' new head coach was an assistant with the team back in '79, the club lost five of its eight road games. Dreading



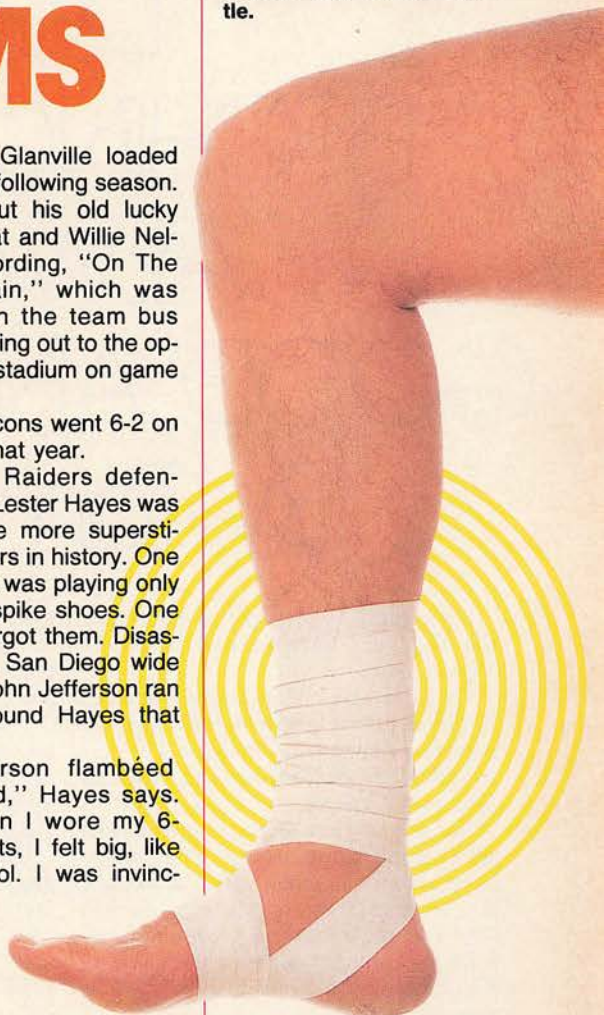
One of Bill Parcells' 200 miniature "lucky" elephants could have helped the Giants to their Super Bowl title.

a repeat, Glanville loaded up for the following season. He dug out his old lucky cowboy hat and Willie Nelson's recording, "On The Road Again," which was blasted on the team bus while heading out to the opposition's stadium on game day.

The Falcons went 6-2 on the road that year.

Former Raiders defensive back Lester Hayes was one of the more superstitious players in history. One of his rites was playing only in Nike 6-spike shoes. One day, he forgot them. Disaster struck. San Diego wide receiver John Jefferson ran circles around Hayes that afternoon.

"Jefferson flambéed my behind," Hayes says. "But when I wore my 6-spike cleats, I felt big, like Manute Bol. I was invincible."★



Christensen never allowed trainers to tape his ankles. He did it himself.

Tinker-to-Evers-to-Chance were words, legend has it, to sadden a National League of an earlier era. But for a real bummer of an earful, try Newcombe-to-Drysdale-to-Koufax-to-Sutton-to-Valenzuela-to-Hershiser.

This is The Chain. It links six decades of Dodgers generations, running uninterrupted since 1949, the DNA decoding the life force of still the most admired of baseball organizations.

Lore provides us with two locks: Death and taxes. The Dope Book supplies another: A Los Angeles pitcher, likely two, among the league elite; and they shall lead the way to October.

Since 1971, at least one member of the Dodgers rotation has ranked in the Top 10 in ERA, a stretch coinciding with seven NL West titles, five pennants and two World Series crowns.

wide, pitching depth is at an all-time low? And if they can do it, why can't others?

You can bet your Rotisserie profits it's no accident.

"You hear about it right from the time you sign with the Dodgers," says Orel Hershiser, "that they build their clubs around pitching."

Says Tim Belcher: "With the Dodgers so rich in pitching tradition, they can just plug someone else in that flow, and he gets swept up in it. I know I did when I came here in September of '87."

A comment by Ben Wade, the Dodgers' Director of Scouting, comes closest to being definitive: "We have always gone for pitching, more than anything

SO WHY IS THE DODGERS PITCHING STAFF ALWAYS SO GOOD, ANYWAY? By Tom Singer

Since their 1958 flight to California, the Dodgers have earned seven Cy Young awards.

Of 11 Dodgers Rookies of the Year, five have been pitchers—including the probably never-to-be-equalled 1979-81 Rick Sutcliffe, Steve Howe and Fernando Valenzuela trifecta.

But it's not just the homegrown who sprout golden arms. Journeyman pitchers have a way of getting good when they put on the Dodgers uniform. Hence, The Chain II: Osteen-to-Downing-to-John-to-Hooton-to-Reuss-to-Belcher, all acquisitions who flourished in Los Angeles.

How have the Dodgers perpetuated this pitching tradition, still boasting caches of cocked arms when, majors-

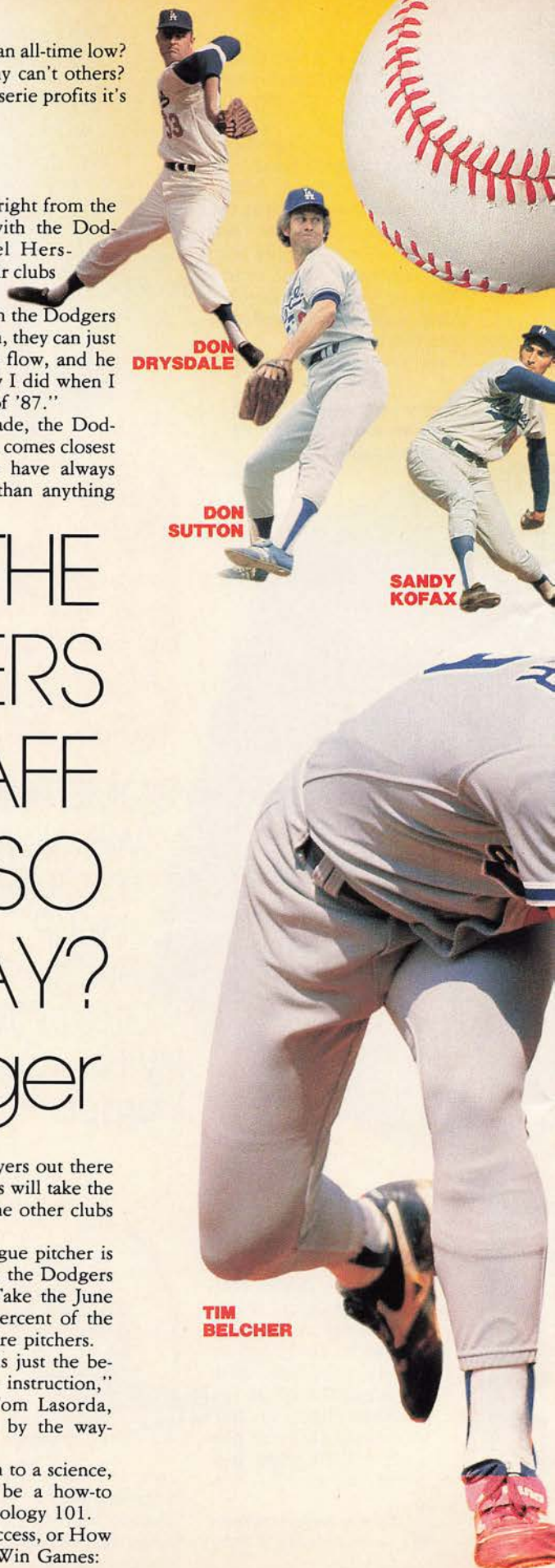
else. If there are three players out there for the taking, the Dodgers will take the pitcher. The majority of the other clubs will go with the regular."

If that bona fide big-league pitcher is the needle in the haystack, the Dodgers just get more haystacks. Take the June 1989 amateur draft: 40 percent of the Dodgers' 65 selections were pitchers.

But whittling the odds is just the beginning. "Without proper instruction," says Dodgers manager Tom Lasorda, "the prospects would fall by the wayside."

These guys have it down to a science, and there might as well be a how-to manual for use in Pitchingology 101.

A Five-Point Plan for Success, or How to Influence Pitchers and Win Games:

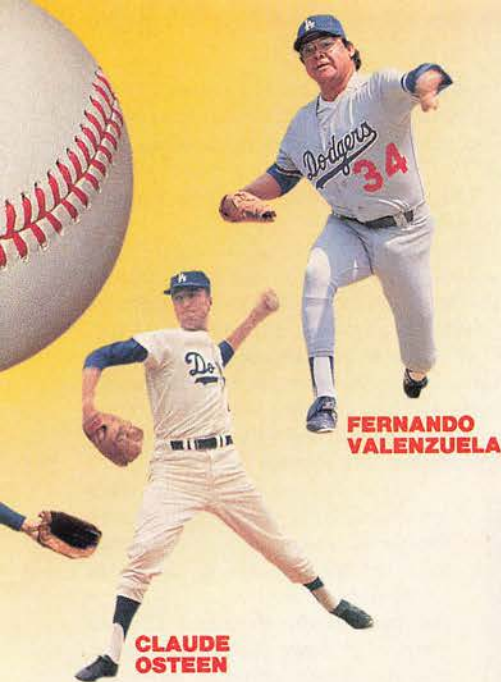


**DON
DRYSDALE**

**DON
SUTTON**

**SANDY
KOUFAX**

**TIM
BELCHER**



From the '60s through the '80s and now into the '90s, no organization can boast of such successful lefty-righty duos like the Dodgers. First there were Sandy Koufax and Don Drysdale, then Claude Osteen and Don Sutton and now Tim Belcher and Fernando Valenzuela.

DON DRYSDALE BY SPORT ARCHIVE, DON SUTTON BY JERRY WACHTER/FOCUS ON SPORTS, SANDY KOUFAX BY FOCUS ON SPORTS, TIM BELCHER BY TOM DIPAGE, CLAUDE OSTEEN BY FOCUS ON SPORTS, FERNANDO VALENZUELA BY JOHN SWART/ALLSPORT USA.

1. A wrecking ball isn't constructive. Be consistent, both in ideas and personnel. Don't rebuild every time a whim or a bad spell strikes.

Ever since they decided back in 1952 to specialize in pitching—general manager Buzzie Bavasi thought it was the easiest tool to scout—the Dodgers have stressed the art of pitching over all other aspects of the game, while maintaining a continuity in teaching methods; John Wetteland sharpens his control in Vero Beach by throwing through the same strings-framed strike zone Johnny Podres did.

As for management, they've had the stability of the British monarchy. In 33 L.A. seasons, there have been two managers—Walter Alston and Lasorda—and four pitching coaches—Joe Becker, Lefty

Scouting Bureau, which was introduced in 1974. The Dodgers retain a full-time staff of 74, including 62 field scouts; about double that of the average club. But they do keep their socks in a bureau too.

"We spend more money, but coming up with one good player makes up for all of it," says Wade. "You can't have too many scouts."

3. Speed thrills. If, on the one hand, a kid throws hard... then there is no other hand. Grab him. Don't be concerned with control, composure, other pitches—all that can come later. Speed won't.

If there is one identifiable trend in the Dodgers' talent evaluation through the decades, it is an affinity for hard throwers while being blind to everything else.

Says Wade: "You basically look for a

ARMS IN THE CHAIN

Phillips, Red Adams and Ron Perranoski. The Yankees have that many in a bad week.

"The Dodgers came up with a plan and have stuck with it," says Don Drysdale, mentor-broadcaster. "Other teams preach pitching-speed-defense. The Dodgers put it into practice."

2. The eyes have it. Scouts sow the seeds the big club reaps. Cover the baseball-playing civilization like a blanket. Just because there now is a draft of amateurs, don't settle for a number, except when the line is too long in the deli.

In the years since the 1965 implementation of the draft, some clubs have skinned their scouting staffs to the bone, relying instead on the Major League

real good, strong arm and take it from there. You take the best basic tools and hope everything else falls into place."

The Dodgers drafted a high school catcher named Dave Stewart because he threw hard. "I don't see other organizations having any consistency in philosophy, but the Dodgers have never strayed from hard throwers," says Jerry Stephenson, the club's NL advance scout. "They keep weeding out guys until they get down to the one, two hardest throwers and go from there."

4. Teach, don't preach. Through observation, identify a pitcher's strengths and help him perfect them. Don't consider occasional failure as a ticket back to square one.

The Dodgers are famed for building on prospects' fundamental tools. Their instructors analyze for hours, then offer suggestions. From their days in the deepest bushes, pitchers are encouraged to throw in their personal comfort zone, not the way a coach thinks they should.

"When you're having success, they don't really hassle you," says former Dodgers pitcher Bob Welch, now an Oakland Athletics rock. "Adams and Perranoski pretty much stuck to the philosophy that if it isn't broke, don't [bleep] with it."

5. If all else fails, awe them. Overrun practice fields and clubhouses with illustrious alumni such as Sandy Koufax, Drysdale, Podres, Burt Hooton. That'll make an impression on up-and-comers, sort of like Yoda passing on his wisdom to Luke Skywalker.

What about teams who don't have a supply of former greats?

Tough.

"Everyone around here is just always talking pitching," says Mike Morgan, who knocked around five organizations for 11 seasons before tapping into his potential in his first Dodgers season. "Claude Osteen, Koufax, Drysdale, Hooton... you can go down the list. They're all around to give you little pats on the back and reinforce what you're doing."

"There's a historical perspective about the game here because they work hard to keep successful pitchers around as coaches and instructors," says Hershisier, the premier NL right-hander before he went down with a shoulder injury early this season. "It's a lot easier to learn about good pitching if you get to watch it every day. I feel sorry for kids coming up with organizations poor in pitching; they're being counted on, but they don't get to watch successful pitchers. We get to talk to accomplished pitchers daily."

First, there was Walter O'Malley. Everything Dodger spawns from the late patriarch who meticulously planned each move of the team. Years before plotting the Bums' migration to Los Angeles, O'Malley targeted pitching as the answer to long-term success and also provided a venue for cultivating pitchers by the streetcar-load—Vero Beach.

The two developments may not have been isolated. Walter O. could've realized that abandoning Ebbets Field for the type of bigger, modern ballpark he coveted would unplug the Dodgers' power and force them to rely on pitching, speed and defense. Yes, he was that forward-looking.

"The last few years in Brooklyn, things started to lean toward pitching," says Drysdale. "At the time of the move, the power we'd seen in Brooklyn began to fade."

Bavasi, then the Dodgers' GM, remembers the promotion of pitching as "a conscious effort. We hired scouts and brought in coaches who knew pitching. That had to become our dominant factor because we had little offense."

"But we did have something other teams didn't—our facilities at Vero Beach. Every spring, we could look at 600 players, and 250 of them would be

individual as just that and consider what he can and cannot handle. If he doesn't feel comfortable with a suggestion, I nix it."

Do these fellows know their manual, or what?

The prime reason the Dodgers have ranked Nos. 1 or 2 in staff ERA eight of the last nine years is because of Perranoski, the 54-year-old former relief specialist who is still saving pitchers. Current and ex-Dodgers alike extoll Perry's patience and insight, his skill in communicating ideas and tips, and his genius for unobtrusive instruction.

"He's the reason, and it never gets publicized," says Stephenson, a former journeyman pitcher treated to some mind-numbing sights on his rounds of the league. "Perry is the best in the business. He has been ever since he's been there, and the results prove it. He's got great rapport with pitchers and doesn't overdo things. So many [coaches] think they have to justify their jobs by changing guys and showing them 18 million things. Perry simplifies; he won't make-over a guy. Instead, he takes his strength and works with that."

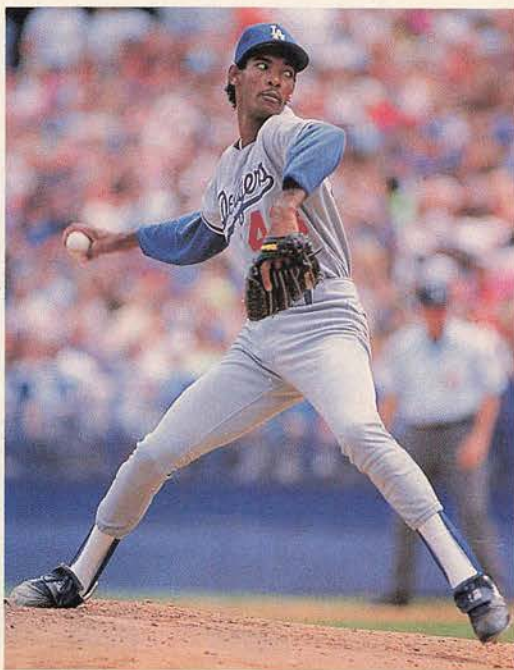
Dodgers pitching has worn Perranoski's stamp a long time. Before joining Lasorda's staff in 1981, he served as farm system pitching instructor for eight years, placing him at the gateway of the careers of such pitchers as Sutcliffe, Welch, Steve Howe, Hershisier and Valenzuela. With the Dodgers, he has helped take Hershisier and Alejandro Pena

to new heights, while giving Tim Leary, Belcher, Mike Morgan, Jay Howell and Fernando new life.

Perranoski's Holy Grail is remarkably basic. "To help a young pitcher with a good arm learn how to pitch before he hurts himself," is how he describes his mission, hearing the echoes of too many if-I-only-knew-then-what-I-know-now complaints. "So many throw so hard, they ruin their arms before they learn what it's all about. Why can't you teach them while they still have the arm?"

This simple philosophy translates into two practices Perranoski swears by: Simulated games ("the single most important drill you can have"), which break down the pitcher-batter warfare the way biology students dissect a frog, and a rigid warm-up routine.

"At the beginning, I have the catcher set up on the outside part of the plate and have the pitcher warm up to that area. I give him 15-20 pitches," he says. "Then, I'll move him to the inside of the plate and work there exclusively. What this does is give him two release points, and that's all he has to worry about. All



One of the latest prospects to emerge from the never-ending pool of pitching talent is Ramon Martinez.

pitchers. Even someone like me can find a good pitcher among 250."

After you find 'em, you've got to refine 'em. To that end, standardized organization-wide teaching methods were devised—this was an actual how-to manual—and have remained unedited through the years. Current practitioners are Dave Wallace, the minor-league pitching instructor, and Perranoski.

Listen as they define their approach, speaking weeks and thousands of miles apart:

"A good arm is the biggest key," says Wallace. "If I see a mechanical problem, I'll first talk to the player and see if he's in agreement with what I have in mind. I make suggestions, not changes. We don't want to confuse him by coming at him from all angles."

"First, you need good arms," says Perranoski. "Then, I try to make my approach as simple as possible. I treat each

BRUCE L. SCHWARTZMAN

of a sudden, if in the game he wants to put the ball in a certain spot, he knows how."

It's an example of the logic and elementary approach that wow Perry's pupils.

"He works to your ability," Morgan says. "He'll watch you throw, see your top two, three pitches and polish those off. I've found that at a lot of places, they try to change you, and you get hurt. They say, 'You've got to drag and drive, fly in, do this, do that.' Perry wants you to be yourself."

"From the beginning, I've been taught to be responsible for my actions, to not just throw the ball but have a reason behind it," says Hersher. "I'd get out of an inning in the minors, and Perranoski would be there, saying, 'You got that guy out, but in the big leagues, that pitch would've been hit. You've got to be better than that.' Even if you were successful by the results, he was there to tell you that won't make it on the next level."

And Welch, a candidate for a quick blowout when he reported to the Arizona Instructional League in the winter of '77 after leaving Eastern Michigan with a tender elbow, says: "I had the leeway to just go out and pitch while he watched. He didn't jump in and say

we've got to change this and that. When I got a feel for what was going on, he pointed out that I didn't have much of a breaking ball, so we started out there."



MITCHELL LAYTON

After bouncing around five different organizations, Mike Morgan found success in Los Angeles.

Perranoski thinks of himself as a mirror, the ultimate silent partner, merely reflecting and illuminating a pitcher's forte and flaws. Sometimes, though, the mirror speaks and must be convincing. Valenzuela got the lecture when he tried to macho his way through a 1987 should-

er ligament injury and still throw like the old Fernando.

The message sank in. "I learned things would never be the same," Valenzuela says. "I was worried that I might never pitch again, but now I know I just have to work hard for any success the rest of my career."

During an early season cablecast, one of those born-to-day announcers referred to Oakland as a "model franchise." The A's may be getting more covers these days, and they're certainly a fine franchise, but the Dodgers are still baseball's Cheryl Tiegs.

At least they are when it comes to implementing the adage that the game is three-fourths pitching. "We really concentrate on pitching. We realize its importance. When you've got good pitching, you've got the edge," says Lasorda, to which Drysdale adds, "The Dodgers understand that anyone with any kind of pitching always has a definite chance."

Not only do they accept pitching as the key, they know how to turn it. Their dedication to pitching translates into a perennial depth, affording them the patience to nurture prospects. While baseball's graveyard is strewn with potential rushed into ruin, the Dodgers unleash no arm before its time.

DODGER PITCHERS ARE MADE...

Orel Leonard Hersher IV did not sound like major-league pitching stock (and looked even less like it) in 1979 as a 17th-round pick, about the 440th player chosen that year.

"I was not projected as an outstanding pitcher, as somebody who maybe could get to the big leagues," Hersher says.

Enter Ron Perranoski, the Dodgers' minor-league pitching instructor at the time.

"The first thing I saw was that he had a really live arm, a fastball that wanted to sink and a curve with great rotation," says Perry. "But he didn't know how to use it. He was keeping the ball waist-high or higher. It was a matter of putting things together with experience and confidence. If we could cultivate the fastball, we knew we had something."

"I took him to the Arizona Instructional League for a bit of advanced treatment in simulated games. One incident captures the flavor: I stood behind Orel and had him set up Mike Marshall for an inside pitch; he hit his spot, and Marshall hit a spot on the 120-foot-high center-field wall. Right there, Orel learned you don't make that pitch in the big leagues."

"We didn't know about Orel's mental makeup at that time. I mean, look at him now and imagine how really young he looked 12 years ago. But I wanted to know how competitive he was, so I took him out on the golf course. We had a great day together, and I saw he was a great competitor."

It wasn't such a great day for Perranoski, who was totalled by Hersher's four handicap and killer instinct. It was the birth of The Bulldog, years before Tom Lasorda performed the official baptism.

... OR REMADE

Tim Belcher was a No. 1 draft choice, not once but twice (1983, Twins; 1984, Yankees). Then the Oakland Athletics snapped him up from the free-agency compensation pool just after New York signed him to a contract.

His arm made talent scouts drool, but it couldn't find Manute Bol's strike zone.

"That the Dodgers would give me the chance that Oakland wouldn't, really built my confidence," Belcher says. "It was really the only thing I was lacking."

Again enter Perranoski, by 1987 established as the Dodgers' pitching doctor.

"His stats said he had a heck of a prob-

lem throwing strikes," says Perranoski. "Well, I saw him throw and watched his delivery, and I said, 'No way this guy can be wild.' He has one of the most perfect deliveries I've ever seen. What could've made him wild?"

"He was wild high, so we kind of lowered his sights. I worked with him by dividing the plate into two areas and had him throw to them. I made him concentrate on his release points. We showed him how to concentrate, and he's still in the process of learning to do that."

"We pointed out to him that there's a mental side too. He's come a long way from being a pitcher who'd get out there and show that things were bothering him, the smallest thing throwing him off for the next five, six pitches. He took to it real fast. His control was pretty good from the first year. Then he came on like gangbusters."

Belcher spent most of 1987 at Tacoma, walking the Pacific Coast League: 133 in 163 innings. Upon his September trade for Rick Honeycutt, he stepped right into the Dodgers' rotation for the last month: seven walks in 34 innings.

Dr. Perranoski's elixir had worked miracles again.

—Tom Singer

"I would've liked to have come up with an organization like these guys," says Morgan, who, instead, was pitching for Charlie Finley's A's a week after his graduating from high school. "I would've been in rookie ball when I was 18 and worked my way up. They're so deep here, you might win 18 games in Triple-A one year and be back there the next. But all the time, you're learning how to pitch and set up hitters."

"You take a real chance when you rush someone," says Dodgers catcher Mike Scioscia. "So much of pitching is confidence, and if you're thrown in there before you're ready and get hammered and lose it, you have no chance. Ramon Martinez always had the physical talent, but his confidence is reaching a matching level only now."

Splitting the 1988 season between Double-A and Triple-A with a 13-6 record would've locked Martinez into the rotation of most pitching-starved clubs. The Dodgers kept him on hold until this spring.



Pitching coach Ron Perranoski is considered the mastermind behind all of the success.

Martinez, 22, is regarded as the first wave of the next tide of outstanding Dodgers pitchers. Hershiser, Valenzuela and Morgan are the thirtysomething spans on The Chain. And, of course, Hershiser's return to form next year is no lock.

"These things go in cycles," says Wallace, mindful that since Hershiser's 1984 breakthrough, the Dodgers have

had to stock their staff with trades for John Tudor, Leary, Belcher, Howell, Morgan and, last winter, Jim Gott. "You've got to take the tough years, but '88 and '89 were two good drafts. We're maybe two years away from two impact pitchers."

Right-handers Dan Opperman and Kiki Jones, top draft picks in 1987 and 1989, respectively, are the ones targeted by Wallace. Their class includes these other hot future talents: Mike James, Jeff Hartsock, Jason Brosnan and Pedro Astacio.

They all have one thing going for them that prospects with 25 other teams will never know.

That Dodger mystique.

"They instill that tradition of pitching in you early," says Welch. "You get the drift: If you're a Dodger and a pitcher, you must be one helluva pitcher." ★

Tom Singer is a baseball writer who covered the Dodgers and Angels for nine years with the *Los Angeles Herald-Examiner*.

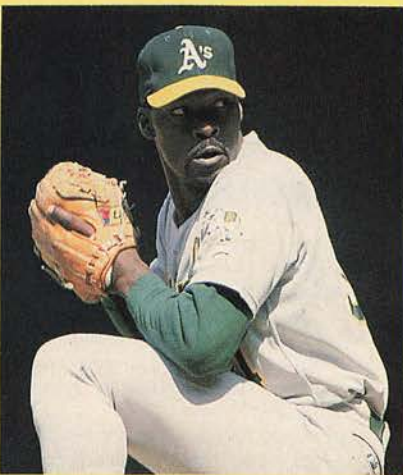
BREAKS IN THE CHAIN

When you keep bringing up guys such as Hershiser, Valenzuela and Martinez, and trade for the likes of Belcher and Morgan, you can afford to use your pitching wealth to trade for need... and make a few mistakes. The major leagues are loaded with ex-Dodgers pitching talent who are thriving post-blue. Here's a partial list of the Dodgers' homegrown who are pitching well elsewhere today.

DAVE STEWART, Oakland Athletics. Stewart spent eight-plus years in the Dodgers organization but never developed there as a consistent starter or reliever. Dealt to Texas for Rick Honeycutt during L.A.'s '83 drive to the division crown, Stew flopped there and at Philadelphia before hitting it big in Oakland.

SID FERNANDEZ, New York Mets. El Sid was a hot prospect from the day the Dodgers signed him until they dealt him to the Mets for Carlos Diaz in December of 1983. He lost his only decision with the Dodgers, who gave up on him after expressing displeasure with his weight. The deal turned out to be one of L.A.'s worst.

BOB WELCH, Oakland Athletics. Welch spent 11 years in the Dodgers organization. He contributed immediately as a rookie in the 1978 NL pennant year. He went on to average 13 wins a year for L.A., but had to go in a three-way deal December 11, 1987, that delivered shortstop Alfredo Griffin and relievers Jay Howell and Jesse Orosco—not to mention a World Series championship—to L.A.



If there's one pitcher the Dodgers regret dumping, it's Dave Stewart, now the ace of the A's.

RICK SUTCLIFFE, Chicago Cubs. Sutcliffe won a staff-high 17 games as a rookie in 1979 but incurred the great blue wrath after tearing up Tommy Lasorda's office when informed he wouldn't be on the Dodgers' '81 postseason roster. Result: Banishment to Cleveland, where he was averaging 16 wins a season until the Cubs brought him and the 1984 Cy Young award to Chicago.

KEN HOWELL, Philadelphia Phillies. Another inconsistent flame thrower who spent seven years in the Dodgers organization (1982-88), mostly as a reliever. His

best year with the Dodgers was 5-5 in '84; the worst was 6-12 in '86. Howell was traded to Baltimore (with Brian Holton and Juan Bell) for Eddie Murray in December of 1988, and he eventually landed in Philadelphia, where he immediately became the staff ace.

ALEJANDRO PENA, New York Mets. Pena excelled as a Dodger, compiling a 24-15 record in his first two years as a starter and nabbing the NL ERA title in 1984. But shoulder problems set him back, and after a gutsy comeback, he went to the Mets last winter along with Mike Marshall in the Juan Samuel trade. Post Dodger: Too early to comment, but New York fielders have reportedly experienced spells of drowsiness when Pena's on the mound.

JOHN FRANCO, New York Mets. Franco never pitched as a Dodger, but he spent two-plus years in the system (1981-83)—mostly as a starter—before going to Cincinnati for Rafael Landestoy. Franco, of course, emerged as one of the best closers in baseball; it was not one of the better Dodgers trades.

TOM NIEDENFUER, St. Louis Cardinals. Niedenfuer spent seven years in the Dodgers organization and was the team's No. 1 closer from late 1983 until a year after he threw Jack Clark's playoff-clinching homer in 1985. He never recovered from his poor playoff performance and was eventually (and mercifully) traded to Baltimore for John Shelby and Brad Havens in May of 1987.

—Rick Weinberg



Think monks had it tough arguing over how many angels can dance on a pin? Try telling somebody from the South that the SEC isn't the best college football conference in the land. Try convincing anybody from Big Ten country that the Pac-10 is superior. Try stay-

ing healthy after insisting to fans in the state of Texas that the SWC takes a back seat to the Eastern independents.

But look, somebody's got to set the record straight. And since SPORT is a national magazine with no regional biases, we've taken it upon ourselves to do what needs to be done—rank the college conferences. So swallow hard, turn the page and

TOM DIPACE



Auburn and the SEC:
Where football rules.

groups of independents.

Of course, there's good football everywhere, but what we have for you is an unabashed analysis of where in the country the best football is being played—not historically, not last decade, but this season, 1990.

And remember, it's nothing personal.

Craig Ellenport is managing editor of *College & Pro Football Weekly*.

find out the pecking order of the top seven conferences, plus the two major

RATING THE COLLEGE CONFERENCES

By Craig Ellenport



Argue all you want about the pecking order among college football's conferences, but understand one thing: The SEC is king.

That's why, when Notre Dame divorced itself from the College Football Association's television pact with ABC to cut its own deal, CFA executive director Chuck Neinas wooed the SEC with increased television appearances. All the numbers—football statistics, winning percentage, television ratings and national demographics—point to SEC dominance.

The Southeastern Conference shows no sign of relinquishing its title as best conference; if anything, it's gotten stronger with the presence of Bill Curry at Kentucky. But this season, look for new blood. The SEC had its share of NFL defections, sending four juniors to the pro ranks this year, including first-round NFL draft picks Keith McCants (Alabama), Emmitt Smith (Florida), and Rodney Hampton (Georgia).

The SEC teams produced more NFL first-round draft picks and top-20 finishes than any other conference in the '80s. The Pac-10 may have had a better record in bowl games, but the SEC made 21 more postseason appearances. An SEC team hasn't won the national championship since Georgia did it in 1980, but that's because the conference is so loaded. Negotiating the conference schedule without a loss is like walking through a minefield unscathed.

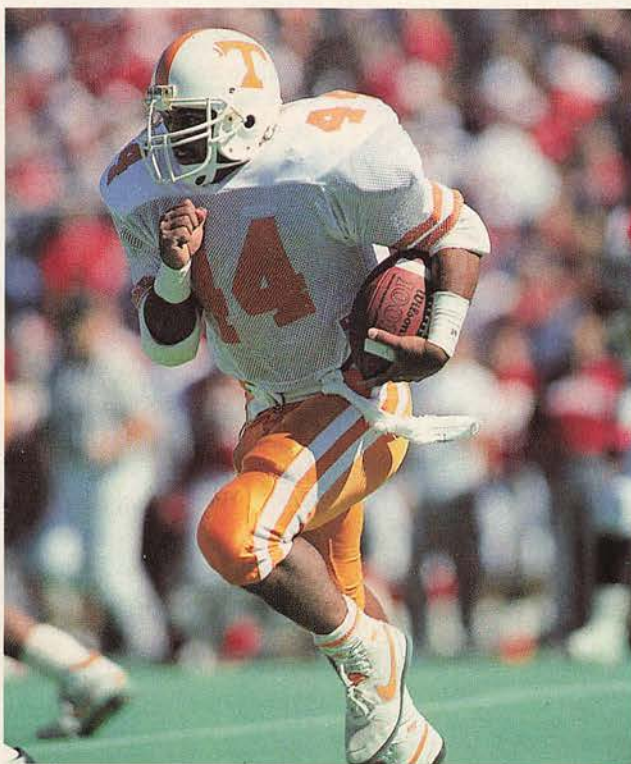
Simply put, college football takes on a greater meaning in the South, and that enthusiasm carries onto the field.

"Down here, you start breathing SEC football by the time you're 7 years old," says Stephen Graham, whose video production company, The Cutting Edge, is responsible for Georgia recruiting tapes. "When you go to an Auburn-Alabama game or a Florida-Georgia game, you see it, live it and breathe it."

Bill Curry has a good per-

SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE

SECOND TO NONE



With super soph tailback Chuck Webb, Tennessee is the SEC favorite.

spective on SEC football. After surviving three seasons at Alabama, home of the most obsessed fans, Curry enters his first season at Kentucky, the only state in the conference where football takes a back seat.

"The rap on Kentucky is that it's a basketball school," says Curry. "But if you come here to a game, it

doesn't matter—the stadium's full."

Curry, encouraged by his up-and-coming **Kentucky** Wildcats, enjoys a break in the schedule this season. He doesn't have to play his old team, **Alabama**, or his old nemesis, **Auburn**. Both the Crimson Tide and the Tigers will challenge for the SEC crown, but

Tennessee has to be the favorite. The Volunteers have the best young talent in the nation, led by sophomore tailback Chuck Webb.

When we last saw **Mississippi**, the Rebels were grounding the Air Force in the Liberty Bowl. Ole Miss looks good again, but there could be competition for the Golden Egg from **Mississippi State**. The Bulldogs won as many games in 1989 (five) as they did in '87 and '88 combined.

Georgia will be steady in coach Ray Goff's second season, although this is a transition year.

The most intriguing SEC teams in 1990 will be **Florida** and **LSU**. The Gators lose one of the nation's top running backs (Emmitt Smith) but welcome one of the nation's best young coaches (former Florida QB and Duke head coach Steve Spurrier). Mike Archer of LSU used to be the hot coach in the SEC, but if the Tigers don't rebound from a 4-7 season, the fans will call for his head.

Bringing up the rear is **Vanderbilt**, and the Commodores don't figure to climb to respectability in '90.

ALL-SEC TEAM

OFFENSE: QB Gary Hollingsworth, Sr., Alabama; RB Chuck Webb, So., Tennessee; RB Randy Baldwin, Jr., Mississippi; WR Carl Pickens, So., Tennessee; WR Phil Logan, Sr., Kentucky; TE Lamonde Russell, Sr., Alabama; OT Charles McRae, Sr., Tennessee; OG Ed King Jr., Auburn; C Roger Shultz, Sr., Alabama; OG Joel Mazzella, Sr., Kentucky; OT Antone Davis, Sr., Tennessee; PK Philip Doyle, Sr., Alabama. **DEFENSE:** DL David Rocker, Sr., Auburn; DL Marc Boutte, Jr., LSU; DL Kelvin Pritchett, Sr., Mississippi; DE Huey Richardson, Sr., Florida; LB Darrel Crawford, Jr., Auburn; LB Morris Lewis, Sr., Georgia; LB Randy Holleran, Sr., Kentucky; DB Richard Fain, Sr., Florida; DB Godfrey Myles, Sr., Florida; DB Efrum Thomas, Sr., Alabama; DB Chauncey Godwin, Jr., Mississippi; P Mike Riley, Jr., Mississippi St.

| IN THE '80s | FIRST-ROUND NFL DRAFT PICKS | INTER-CONFERENCE RECORD* | BOWL APPEARANCES | BOWL RECORD | ALL-AMERICANS | TOP-20 FINISHES |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| SEC | 43 | .631 281-161-15 | 56 | .545 29-24-3 | 55 | 34 |

*VS DIVISION I-A TEAMS ONLY

From top to bottom, the Pac-10 runs right behind the SEC in overall strength. The bottom three can be atrocious at times, but even Cal, Stanford and Oregon State produce top-notch pros. And while every conference has its share of bitter rivalries, nowhere are the battle lines so clearly drawn: USC-UCLA, Arizona-Arizona State, Washington-Washington State, Oregon-Oregon State and Cal-Stanford. By bowl time, these teams have already been through the wringer and end up shining against the nation's best competition. They were 4-0 in bowl games last season.

It was only recently that the Big Ten broke through and won a couple of Rose Bowls, but USC's most recent triumph over Michigan gives the Pac-10 17 of the last 21 Rose Bowl titles. Such dominance over another strong conference is hard to overlook—and that dominance should continue into the next century.

That's assuming, of course, that UCLA rebounds from the nightmare of last year, when coach Terry Donahue endured just his second losing season in 14 at UCLA, an unBruin-like 3-7-1.

The Bruins actually played well against several worthy opponents. They almost beat Michigan and tied USC, but the final mark against bowl competition was 0-5-1. Coupled with surprising losses to Stanford and Oregon State, it added up to one miserable season in Los Angeles.

So Donahue and the Bruins have called in the cavalry. Back in the fold after three seasons abroad is offensive coordinator Homer Smith, who guided the UCLA offensive attack in the early '80s. Smith spent the last two seasons rebuilding the Alabama offense.

The Bruins have a pack of talented running backs and a raw quarterback in Bret Johnson. If Smith brings the group together, they should have little trouble building leads for the defense to pro-

PACIFIC-10 CONFERENCE

BACK FROM THE RUINS



If UCLA is to snatch the Pac-10 title away from crosstown enemy USC, Bruins wide receiver Reggie Moore will play a big part.

And that defense should be dominant with the two other significant newcomers—transfer linebacker Arnold Ale (Notre Dame) and transfer defensive end Mike Chalenski (Pittsburgh).

While Donahue would be satisfied with any positive turnaround, the Rose Bowl is indeed within the Bruins' reach.

2

In UCLA's way is three-time defending champ **USC**. Coach Larry Smith is 21-1-1 against Pac-10 teams since arriving at USC.

But after winning his first Rose Bowl, Smith loses almost his entire defense.

Washington loses defensive leader Dennis Brown and an effective passing combo in Cary Conklin-to-Andre Riley, but Don James' squad still will mount a wor-

thy challenge. The James Gang is led by 1,100-yard rusher Greg Lewis.

Arizona has several reasons for optimism, not least of which is free safety Jeff Hammerschmidt, a Thorpe Award candidate. The Wildcats will get a strong run for state bragging rights from **Arizona State**, which features college football's hottest NFL quarterback prospect in Paul Justin.

Expect **Washington State** quarterback Brad Gossen to put up impressive numbers.

Oregon loses standouts at receiver and running back but has quarterback Bill Musgrave for one last season. The Ducks may finally face some stiff local competition from **Oregon State**, which came as close to a winning conference record last year as they've come since 1974.

Dennis Green's first season at **Stanford** provided some promise, as the Cardinal gave Notre Dame one of its toughest 1989 games. **California** upset two good teams last season (Arizona and Washington State), but the cellar-dwelling Golden Bears lose standout quarterback Troy Taylor.

ALL-PAC-10- TEAM

OFFENSE: QB Paul Justin, Sr., Arizona St.; RB Ricky Ervins, Sr., USC; RB Greg Lewis, Sr., Washington; WR Reggie Moore, Sr., UCLA; WR Ed McCaffrey, Sr., Stanford; TE Richard Griffith, So., Arizona; OT Bob Garman, Jr., Washington St.; OG Mark Tucker, Sr., USC; C Paul Tofflemire, Jr., Arizona; OG Lance Zeno, Sr., UCLA; OT Bob Whitfield, So., Stanford; PK Jason Hanson, Jr., Washington St. **DEFENSE:** DL Shane Collins, Jr., Arizona St.; DL Esera Tualo, Sr., Oregon St.; DL Mike Chalenski, So., UCLA; LB Arnold Ale, So., UCLA; LB James Clifford, Jr., Washington; LB Scott Ross, Sr., USC; LB Peter Brantley, Sr., Oregon; DB Jeff Hammerschmidt, Sr., Arizona; DB Eric Turner, Sr., UCLA; DB Matt Darby, Jr., UCLA; DB Nathan LaDuke, Sr., Arizona St.; P Robbie Keen, Sr., California.

| IN THE '80s | FIRST-ROUND NFL DRAFT PICKS | INTER- CONFERENCE WINS* | BOWL APPEARANCES | BOWL RECORD | ALL- AMERICANS | TOP-20 FINISHES |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| PAC-10 | 42 | .565 146-112-5 | 35 | .643 22-12-1 | 52 | 26 |

*VS DIVISION I-A TEAMS ONLY

It's hard to believe a team that compiled an 8-25 record over the past three seasons stands a chance to go bowling. But like those commercials say—there's unlimited opportunity when you join the armed forces.

"Where else," says former Navy skipper Elliot Uzelac, "do you have a three-team conference where the winner goes to a major bowl?"

Nowhere else, of course, and that's why the Middies stand a better chance than any 3-8 team in college football to make the 1990 postseason. For that they can thank the Liberty Bowl, which begins the second year of a five-year pact with the three major service academies. Through 1993, the Liberty Bowl will extend an automatic bid to the winner of the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy, fought for each season by Army, Navy and Air Force.

Uzelac understood that potential, but he couldn't hang on long enough to profit from the agreement. Despite salvaging an otherwise disastrous season last year by scoring a last-minute knockout victory in the traditional finale versus Army, Uzelac was fired two days later.

New Navy skipper George Chaump is ditching the Middies' weak wishbone attack in favor of a strong passing game, much to the delight of talented quarterback Alton Grizzard. Air Force loses wishbone master Dee Dowis, and Army will be without key players from last season. With the new automatic bid, the Middies can now squeak into the postseason with a 5-6 mark, unless...

Bowl or no bowl, Navy is no match for the upper-echelon teams among the Eastern independents. **Notre Dame**, despite losing quarterback Tony Rice and other important players, will do justice to its 24-1 record over the past two seasons and again launch an assault on the national champion-

EASTERN INDEPENDENTS

UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES



Exciting and dependable wide receiver Ricky Watters will help Norte Dame strive toward the national championship.

ship.

Among the traditional Eastern foes who battle each year for the Lambert Meadowlands Trophy, expect **Penn State** to retain its high ranking until it bolts for the Big Ten. Paterno's squad took it on the chin when **Syracuse** and **West Virginia** mounted successful challenges in the late '80s. The Orangemen and Mountaineers will again be bowl contenders.

3

Pittsburgh will give Penn State a good run, with its solid defense and a couple of offensive all-stars—quarterback Alex Van Pelt and tailback Curvin Richards.

New **Rutgers** head coach Doug Graber has vowed to keep New Jersey's highly touted high school recruits at home. Graber has little talent to work with this year, but he stepped right in and orchestrated Rutgers'

best recruiting class in years.

Now several years removed from the glory days with Doug Flutie, **Boston College** has returned to its status as a small, urban school that has difficulty competing with the big boys.

Temple, which finished 1-10 in '89, has been there awhile.

The hierarchy in the East is in transition. While Penn State is counting the days until it can compete in the Big Ten for a Rose Bowl bid, Pitt, West Virginia and Syracuse are waiting for their chance to take over.

The Irish, of course, aren't really east enough to compete for the Lambert Meadowlands Trophy. We lump them into this category simply because they're closer to the East than the South, home to our other independent division. Because of Notre Dame's presence, this makeshift group landed more of last year's Top 100 high school recruits than any conference in the nation, and the non-Southern independents would rank third as a conference.

ALL-EASTERN INDEPENDENTS TEAM

OFFENSE: QB Alex Van Pelt, So., Pittsburgh; RB Curvin Richards, Jr., Pittsburgh; RB Mike Mayweather, Sr., Army; WR Ricky Watters, Sr., Notre Dame; WR Rich Drayton, Sr., Temple; TE Derek Brown, Jr., Notre Dame; OT Matt McCartin, Sr., Penn State; OG Dale Wolfley, Sr., West Virginia; C John Flannery, Sr., Syracuse; OG Tim Ryan, Sr., Notre Dame; OT Turnell Sims, Sr., Syracuse; PK Frank Schenk, Sr., Navy. **DEFENSE:** DL Keith Hamilton, So., Pittsburgh; DL Chris Zorich, Sr., Notre Dame; DL Scott Miller, Sr., Rutgers; LB Curtis Bray, Jr., Pittsburgh; LB Ricardo McDonald, Jr., Pittsburgh; LB Michael Stonebreaker, Sr., Notre Dame; LB Mark D'Onofrio, Sr., Penn State; DB Todd Lyght, Sr., Notre Dame; DB Rob Thomson, Sr., Syracuse; DB Louis Riddick, Sr., Pittsburgh; DB Willie Thomas, Sr., Penn State; P Craig Hentrich, So., Notre Dame.

| IN THE '80s | FIRST-ROUND NFL DRAFT PICKS | INTER-CONFERENCE RECORD* | BOWL APPEARANCES | BOWL RECORD | ALL-AMERICANS | TOP-20 FINISHES |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| EASTERN INDEPENDENTS | 35 | .538 216-185-10 | 40 | .538 21-18-1 | 52 | 24 |

*VS DIVISION I-A TEAMS ONLY

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| | | | |
|------|-----------------------|------|-----------------------|
| 7/1 | ORIOLES VS. TWINS | 8/12 | PADRES VS. ASTROS |
| 7/8 | ATHLETICS VS. INDIANS | 8/19 | METS VS. GIANTS |
| 7/15 | GIANTS VS. CARDINALS | 8/26 | ATHLETICS VS. TIGERS |
| 7/22 | RED SOX VS. ROYALS | 9/2 | YANKEES VS. RED SOX |
| 7/29 | CARDINALS VS. METS | 9/9 | CARDINALS VS. CUBS |
| 8/5 | ROYALS VS. ORIOLES | 9/16 | ORIOLES VS. BLUE JAYS |

All games 8:05PM ET.

JULY 4TH

RED SOX VS. TWINS
1:30PM ET

YANKEES VS. ROYALS
8PM ET

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Mark October 20 on your calendar. Simply put, it's the end of an era. That day, Miami journeys to South Bend for the last game of its series with Notre Dame.

Since the early '80s, this series has been the most meaningful rivalry in the sport. But Notre Dame's schedule is booked until 2004, so the series will be dormant awhile. However, there is talk of renewing the series sometime during this decade.

This has not been a friendly rivalry; the 1988 game was preceded by a brawl in the Notre Dame Stadium tunnel. What's more, each Miami-Notre Dame game since 1981 has had some significance to one or both teams. In '81, a loss to Miami gave Notre Dame its first losing season since 1963. Two years later, the Hurricanes handed the Irish their first shutout since Missouri turned the tables in 1978.

"Do whatever it takes," is the battle cry that has been echoed by both sides since Jimmy Johnson's Hurricane squad took no prisoners against the Irish in 1985. That was Gerry Faust's final game as Notre Dame's head coach, and Johnson was widely accused of running up the score en route to a 58-7 victory.

The teams did not face each other in 1986, but from 1987-89, the winner of Miami-Notre Dame has been national champion. By the looks of things, the winner of this year's game will once again be playing on New Year's Day for the title.

While the Hurricanes remain the dominant force among Southern independents, **Florida State** runs a close second. The Seminoles have championship-caliber talent, but must avoid the slow start that's plagued them for two straight seasons. **Southern Mississippi** upset them in last year's opener. The Golden Eagles never fulfilled the po-

SOUTHERN INDEPENDENTS

THE BIG TWO WILL DO



Look for wide receiver Wesley Carroll to become Miami's 1,000-yard man.

tential of that big victory, but they return one of the nation's best quarterbacks in Brett Favre.

The man who resurrected the Miami program in the early '80s, Howard Schnellenberger, has led **Louisville** to back-to-back winning seasons for the first time in more than 10 years. **Tulsa** comes off an Independence Bowl visit (and

4

loss to Oregon), but the Golden Hurricane doesn't appear to have enough talent surrounding strong-armed quarterback T.J. Rubley to return to postseason play.

Another team that has lost key players is **South Carolina**. But with seven home games, they've got a decent bowl shot, as does **Virginia Tech**. Hokies

head coach Frank Beamer had to have heart surgery last season, but his condition wasn't caused by his team, which was a pleasant surprise at 6-4-1.

Memphis State is the spoiler in this group. Probation forces the Tigers to forfeit their TV and bowl privileges, but Chuck Stobart has a talented team in his second season in Graceland.

East Carolina has finally watered down its usually imposing schedule, but the Pirates—although they are a program on the rise—remain lost at sea. **Tulane**, which defeated its four weakest opponents last season but went 0-8 against mediocre-to-good competition, can expect more of the same in 1990.

Pouring these teams into a makeshift conference doesn't do justice to the Big Two—Miami and Florida State are a league unto themselves. Actually, they're more like a couple of NFL farm teams. Excluding the games played against each other, Miami and Florida State have a combined record of 65-3 over the past three seasons.

ALL-SOUTHERN INDEPENDENT TEAM

OFFENSE: QB Browning Nagle, Sr., Louisville; RB Amp Lee, So., Florida St.; RB Mike Dingle, Sr., South Carolina; WR Wesley Carroll, Sr., Miami; WR Lawrence Dawsey, Sr., Florida St.; TE Rob Chudzinski, Sr., Miami; OT Mike Sullivan, Sr., Miami; OG Wes McCalip, Sr., Tulsa; C Darren Handy, Sr., Miami; OG Hayward Haynes, Sr., Florida St.; OT Jerry Ostroski, Jr., Tulsa; PK Collin Mackie, Sr., South Carolina. **DEFENSE:** DL Russell Maryland, Sr., Miami; DL Mike Flores, Sr., Louisville; DL Shane Curry, Sr., Miami; LB Robert Jones, Jr., East Carolina; LB Maurice Crum, Sr., Miami; LB Kirk Carruthers, Jr., Florida St.; LB Mark Sander, Sr., Louisville; DB Simmie Carter, Sr., Southern Miss; DB Kerry Valrie, Sr., Southern Miss; DB Charles Pharms, Jr., Miami; DB Terrell Buckley, So., Florida St.; P Daren Parker, Sr., South Carolina.

| IN THE '80s | FIRST-ROUND NFL DRAFT PICKS | INTER-CONFERENCE WINS* | BOWL APPEARANCES | BOWL RECORD | ALL-AMERICANS | TOP-20 FINISHES |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| SOUTHERN INDEPENDENTS | 24 | .477 176-193-5 | 30 | .517 15-14-1 | 67 | 20 |

*5 DIVISION I-A TEAMS ONLY

The Big Ten is mired in an awful slump. Not since Ohio State in 1968 has a Big Ten power won a national championship. It used to be that was because the competition in this grand old conference was so great that no team would escape unscathed. Lately, however, it's been the result of an out-and-out decline in talent.

The Big Ten's poor showing versus Pac-10 teams in the Rose Bowl underscores its losing record in overall bowl games and interconference games during the '80s. Nevertheless, only the SEC made more bowl appearances and earned more Top 20 finishes in that time.

The Big Ten is not going to sink very far. The Midwest remains a fertile football breeding ground, and Notre Dame is the only local bully capable of stealing kids who want to play close to home. Only the SEC and Eastern independents netted more Top 100 recruits this year.

The Fighting Illini's trio of studs raised in nearby Indianapolis, for example—nose tackle Mo Gardner, linebacker Darrick Brownlow and quarterback Jeff George—helped Illinois to a 10-2 record in 1989. But George went back home via the NFL draft. And that leaves a huge void on an otherwise awesome team.

Gardner, an Outland Trophy finalist, knows the Illini can't dwell on the past. "I think the rest of the team is going to concentrate on playing football," he says, "not just keep thinking how much we miss Jeff or how much we could've done with him." With or without George, the 6-foot-2, 242-pound Gardner is the team's leader.

Brownlow is also in line for postseason honors, having been a semifinalist for the Butkus Award in each of the last two years. And to underscore how talented Illinois' defense is, consider that free safety Marlon Primous and cornerback Henry Jones both are Jim Thorpe Award candidates.

BIG TEN CONFERENCE

O N E M O T I M E



Michigan's Alex Marshall is one of the premier linebackers in college football and a future NFL player.

While the pieces are in place for Illinois, it's Year 1 A.B. (After Bo) for defending champion **Michigan**. But Schembechler's hand-picked replacement, Gary Moeller, inherits the best offensive line in the nation and a quarterback named Elvis (Grbac, that is).

John Cooper has his best team in three years at **Ohio State**, but he may have

5

seen his conference title hopes shot when gifted tailback Carlos Snow underwent surgery in April to remove a benign tumor in his hip.

For the first time in five years, **Michigan State** doesn't field a sure-fire first-round NFL draft pick. But that shouldn't affect the Spartans' bid for a fourth straight bowl appearance.

Did someone say bowl appearance? **Iowa** made eight straight before a surprising collapse in 1989, and some observers doubt Hayden Fry has what it takes to rebound in just one season.

Indiana also fell from grace in '89, and the loss of Anthony Thompson, the Hoosiers' all-time leading rusher and scorer, puts a serious crimp in any comeback hopes. Ditto for **Minnesota**, where Darrell Thompson was more valuable to a less talented Gophers squad than Anthony was to Indiana.

That leaves an opening for some lower-division Big Ten teams to make noise. Fred Akers' rebuilding process at **Purdue** has been a slow one up to now, but the Boilermakers are extremely high on sophomore quarterback Eric Hunter. At **Wisconsin**, former Notre Dame defensive coordinator Barry Alvarez is turning the Badgers in the right direction.

That leaves **Northwestern**. Two of the best players in the Big Ten, receiver Richard Buchanan and running back Bob Christian, weren't enough to prevent the Wildcats' third winless season in the '80s.

ALL-BIG TEN TEAM:

OFFENSE: QB Greg Frey, Sr., Ohio St.; RB Howard Griffith, Sr., Illinois; RB Bob Christian, Sr., Northwestern; WR Richard Buchanan, Sr., Northwestern; WR Courtney Hawkins, Jr., Michigan St.; TE Jeff Ellis, Jr., Ohio St.; OT Tom Dohring, Sr., Michigan; OG Chuck Belin, Jr., Wisconsin; C Curt Lovelace, Sr., Illinois; OG Dean Dingman, Sr., Michigan; OT Greg Skrepnek, Sr., Michigan; PK J.D. Carlson, Jr., Michigan. **DEFENSE:** DL Mo Gardner, Sr., Illinois; DL Mel Agee, Sr., Illinois; DL Jim Johnson, Sr., Iowa; LB Carlos Jenkins, Sr., Michigan St.; LB Darrick Brownlow, Sr., Illinois; DE Alonzo Spellman, So., Ohio St.; LB Alex Marshall, Sr., Michigan; DB Henry Jones, Sr., Illinois; DB Tripp Welborne, Sr., Michigan; DB Marlon Primous, Jr., Illinois; DB Mike Dumas, Sr., Indiana; P Macky Smith, Sr., Indiana.

| IN THE '80s | FIRST-ROUND NFL DRAFT PICKS | INTER-CONFERENCE RECORD* | BOWL APPEARANCES | BOWL RECORD | ALL-AMERICANS | TOP-20 FINISHES |
|----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| BIG TEN | 33 | .459 121-143-4 | 46 | .457 21-25 | 43 | 27 |

*VS DIVISION I-A TEAMS ONLY

The state of Texas is widely regarded as the primary breeding ground for blue-chip high school football talent. Eight of the nine teams that comprise the Southwest Conference are located in Texas. Ergo, the SWC should be a pretty darn good football conference.

It certainly was. Schools around the nation had always raided Texas for talent, and there always had been enough to go around. But the disciplinary problems that plagued the conference in the '80s—most notably SMU's death penalty—really hit hard. By 1986, six SWC teams were either on probation or under investigation, and Texas was about to fire head coach Fred Akers.

But it's a brand new decade, and when Houston gets its bill of health from the NCAA following the 1990 season, the SWC will be violation-free. The conference coaches want their kids back. Last year provided a breakthrough, as several highly touted expatriates transferred back home: LB Tyrone Malone, from LSU to Texas A&M; DB Graylin Johnson, from Notre Dame to Texas; WR Michael Bowen and OT Tre Giller, from Georgia and Oklahoma, respectively, back to SMU, where they started from when the death penalty hit.

"People go other places because it sounds more glamorous," says SMU coach Forrest Gregg. "I see us gaining some momentum [in Texas]. Getting these people back certainly helps."

Arkansas, the SWC champ for two years running, breaks in a new coach (Jack Crowe for Ken Hatfield, who left for Clemson) but has the talent to repeat. The Razorbacks will get a stiff challenge from **Texas A&M** and its quarterback/running back combo of Lance Pavlas and Heisman Trophy candidate Darren Lewis. **Houston** is still barred from postseason play, but the Cougars' run 'n' shoot offense won't skip a

SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE

COME ON HOME



Houston running back Chuck Weatherspoon is one of the reasons the SWC is climbing out of college football's doghouse.

beat. Andre Ware's replacement, David Klingler, threw for 864 yards and eight TDs as a backup last year. **Baylor** loses three all-conference stars on defense, but the other eight starters return to form an impressive unit. **Texas Tech** turned a big corner last season by finishing 9-3 and then crushing Duke in the All-



American Bowl.

It seems as if every year is a crucial one for **Texas** coach David McWilliams. Back-to-back upsets over Oklahoma and Arkansas last year made the Longhorns look better than a mediocre team, which is what they are. The Horned Frogs of **TCU** are trying to master the triple shoot, a variation

of the run 'n' shoot. They'll need to score lots of points to offset a porous defense. The Frogs will fight off valiant attempts from **Rice** and **Southern Methodist** to avoid the bottom of the SWC standings. The Owls possess an all-star in wingback Eric Henley, who caught 81 passes in '89. Gregg's SMU squad is still crippled from the death penalty—give them a few years yet.

From the threshold of the NCAA doghouse, the SWC can see bright days ahead. The recruits are back, the fans are back and—most important—the television appearances are on the way back. That will mean national recognition for standout players, such as Texas A&M's Lewis.

The SWC's weaker sisters are starting to flex their muscles. Four teams enjoyed eight-win seasons, Baylor returned to prominence, and Texas is just around the corner. Jim Wacker has TCU headed in the right direction, and assuming Forrest Gregg brings SMU back to life in four or five years, Rice may be the only SWC team that fails to make a bowl appearance in the '90s.

ALL-SWC TEAM

OFFENSE: QB Lance Pavlas, Sr., Texas A&M; RB Chuck Weatherspoon, Sr., Houston; RB Darren Lewis, Sr., Texas A&M; WR Manny Hazard, Sr., Houston; WR Eric Henley, Jr., Rice; TE Kerry Cash, Sr., Texas; OT Matt McCall, Sr., Texas A&M; OG Mike Sullivan, Sr., TCU; C Mike Arthur, Sr., Texas A&M; OG Mike Gisler, Jr., Houston; OT Stan Thomas, Sr., Texas; PK Todd Wright, So., Arkansas. **DEFENSE:** DL Kevin Tucker, So., Texas A&M; DL Roosevelt Collins, Jr., TCU; DL Santana Dotson, Jr., Baylor; LB William Thomas, Sr., Texas A&M; LB Charles Rowe, Sr., Texas Tech; LB Reggie Burnette, Sr., Houston; LB Mick Thomas, Jr., Arkansas; DB Tracey Saul, So., Texas Tech; DB Kevin Smith, Jr., Texas A&M; DB Lance Gunn, So., Texas; DB Sammy Walker, Jr., Texas Tech; P Casey Clyce, So., SMU.

| IN THE '80s | FIRST-ROUND NFL DRAFT PICKS | INTER-CONFERENCE WINS* | BOWL APPEARANCES | BOWL RECORD | ALL-AMERICANS | TOP-20 FINISHES |
|-------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| SWC | 27 | .489 92-96-2 | 36 | .389 14-22 | 38 | 23 |

*VS DIVISION I-A TEAMS ONLY

Last year, Colorado did it for Sal, riding a wave of emotion to an undefeated regular season that they dedicated to their quarterback Sal Aunese, who died last September after a six-month bout with stomach cancer. This time, the Buffaloes are on a new mission.

"If you trace Colorado down through the years," says head coach Bill McCartney, "you'll see that every now and then they've reached up there, but they've never stayed there. We have to prove that we can play at a high level over an extended period of time. That opportunity is there for us."

That opportunity is hard to come by in the land of the Big Two. Last year marked only the third time in the 31-year history of the conference that a team other than Oklahoma or Nebraska has won a Big Eight title outright, and no other team besides Oklahoma and Nebraska has ever won back-to-back conference titles.

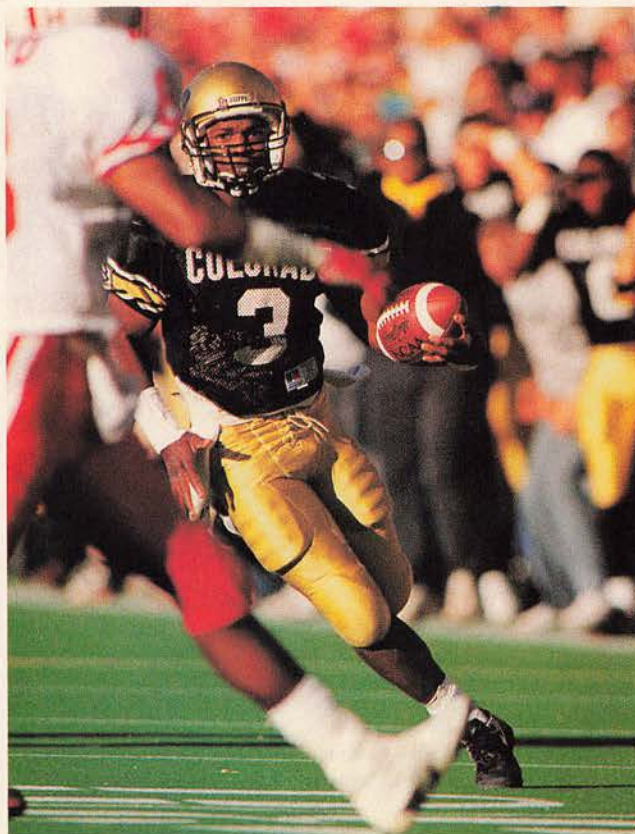
But Colorado has a great shot at repeating. The Buffs return 25 seniors to the '90 squad, including six all-conference players and a pair of Heisman Trophy candidates. Running back Eric Bieniemy was in the hunt last year until an injury sidelined him for three games. Quarterback Darian Hagan, meanwhile, was fifth in the Heisman voting after gaining 1,000 yards both running and passing. McCartney also welcomes one of his best recruiting classes since he came to Colorado in 1982.

Even so, the Big Eight closed out the '80s by sinking to new depths: only two teams in postseason play—and Colorado and Nebraska were beaten by a combined score of 62-23 in those games. Still, probation hasn't affected Oklahoma's recruiting efforts, so as soon as the Sooners are set free in '91, they'll be in the thick of the Orange Bowl hunt.

And while no other conference has such a drop in talent from first to last, the Big Eight's top heavy roster provides a decent chance for

BIG EIGHT CONFERENCE

ADD ONE TO THE TWO



Behind quarterback Darian Hagan, Colorado shoots to become the first Big Eight team—other than Nebraska and Oklahoma—to win back-to-back crowns.

the conference champ to win a national title. That's why so many people picked Nebraska last season and why Oklahoma was one of only four conference-aligned teams to win a national title in the '80s. Even if Colorado changes the Big Two into the Big Three,

7

there're still five teams that have no shot at the conference title.

Colorado won't repeat without a fight from the Big Two. Though probation prohibits **Oklahoma** from going to the Orange Bowl,

Gary Gibbs' second Sooners team is good enough to play on the Buffaloes' level (and the Sooners shocked everybody by landing an awesome recruiting class). **Nebraska**, still shaking off a Fiesta Bowl beating from Florida State, has a star-studded defense which could slow the Colorado offensive machine.

The Cowboys of **Oklahoma State** are in surprisingly good shape despite losing their all-time leading passer, Mike Gundy, to graduation. NCAA probation, however, relegates them to spoiler.

Bet you didn't know that **Iowa State** featured the nation's fourth-leading running back from 1989. His name is Blaise Bryant, and he rushed for 1,516 yards and 19 touchdowns.

Bob Stull made a winner out of lowly **UTEP** a few years ago, so there's no reason to believe he can't do the same with **Missouri**.

And if you thought only death and taxes were inevitable, consider this: **Kansas** and **Kansas State** have a combined record of 19-90-2 over the past five seasons. Expect the same results in '90.

ALL-BIG EIGHT TEAM

OFFENSE: QB Darian Hagan, Jr., Colorado; RB Gerald Hudson, Sr., Oklahoma St.; RB Eric Bieniemy, Sr., Colorado; WR Curtis Mayfield, Sr., Oklahoma St.; WR Michael Smith, Jr., Kansas St.; TE Tim Bruton, Sr., Missouri; OT Mark Vander Poel, Sr., Colorado; OG Joe Garten, Sr., Colorado; C Jay Leeuwenburg, Jr., Colorado; OG Larry Medice, Sr., Oklahoma; OT Terran Manning, Sr., Oklahoma; PK Cary Blanchard, Sr., Oklahoma St. **DEFENSE:** DL Scott Evans, Sr., Oklahoma; DL Joel Steed, Jr., Colorado; DL Stacey Satterwhite, Jr., Oklahoma St.; DL Frank Blevins, Sr., Oklahoma; LB Kanavis McGhee, Sr., Colorado; LB Mike Croel, Sr., Nebraska; LB Alfred Williams, Sr., Colorado; DB Doug Terry, Jr., Kansas; DB Bruce Pickens, Sr., Nebraska; DB Tyrone Byrd, So., Nebraska; DB Reggie Cooper, Sr., Nebraska; P Tom Rouen, Sr., Colorado.

| IN THE '80s | FIRST-ROUND NFL DRAFT PICKS | INTER-CONFERENCE RECORD* | BOWL APPEARANCES | BOWL RECORD | ALL-AMERICANS | TOP-20 FINISHES |
|------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| BIG EIGHT | 26 | .509 115-111-4 | 33 | .394 13-20 | 43 | 23 |

*VS DIVISION I-A TEAMS ONLY

Almost all the numbers jump out at you and say, "Come on guys, stick to basketball." Yes, the ACC has produced fewer All-Americans, Top-20 teams and first-round NFL draft picks than any conference save the WAC. But one statistic throws a monkey wrench into the equation: Only the Pac-10 has had a better record in bowl games than the ACC in the last decade, and the ACC also has the third-best all-time mark in bowl competition.

The theory here is that the rest of the country just takes ACC teams too lightly at the end of the season. The recent rise to power of Duke, Virginia and N.C. State, the steady improvement of Georgia Tech and the coaching change at perennial power Clemson all add up to a balanced and competitive conference. Compared to the rest of the country, though, it also is one of the weakest.

But the ACC does have the hottest passing combo in college football. Shawn and Herman Moore, who grew up about 90 minutes apart in the southern part of the state, have come together at the University of Virginia. They're not related, but Shawn—the quarterback—and Herman—the receiver—have connected often enough on the gridiron.

They hooked up for touchdowns nine times last season. The first Moore-to-Moore touchdown came in 1988 against Clemson, and the duo has clicked ever since. In what was arguably the biggest victory in Virginia football history, Moore hit Moore for the only two touchdowns in a 14-6 win over Penn State last September.

Shawn, a 6-2, 210-pound senior, can run the option and throw from the pocket with equal precision. A legitimate Heisman Trophy candidate, he was the only Division I-A quarterback last season to pass for 2,000 yards while rushing for 500 more. The scouts originally likened him to former West Virginia quarterback Major

TOM DIPACE

ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE

THEY KNOW HOW TO BOWL



Virginia's Shawn Moore, a Heisman Trophy candidate, was the only quarterback to throw for 2,000 yards and rush for 500 more last year.

Harris. Fact is, Moore is better.

Virginia has had some successful receivers of late, as well, but none with the ability of Herman Moore, a 6-5 junior who just happens to be the 1990 ACC indoor high jump champion.

Virginia enjoyed a 10-win season last year, earned a share of the ACC crown and played on New Year's Day. All three were firsts for the

8

Cavaliers. There should be plenty Moore to come.

While Virginia is a known quantity, the other ACC co-champ is a question mark. **Duke** enjoyed a breakthrough season last year but must continue the success without coach Steve Spurrier, who left for Florida. He's replaced by former assistant

Barry Wilson. There's a new coach at **Clemson**, but Ken Hatfield inherits the same team that's won 10 games three straight seasons.

Georgia Tech is flying into the 1990 season after a stunning '89 campaign in which it won four ACC games—four more than the Yellow Jackets had won in 16 previous conference games. **North Carolina State** tied Georgia Tech for fourth place in the ACC, but the Wolfpack lost five of its last six.

Maryland hasn't made much progress in three seasons under Joe Krivak, but the Terrapins' head coach has high hopes for senior quarterback Scott Zolak, the best prospect they've seen in College Park since Boom-er Esiason.

Bill Dooley's **Wake Forest** squad has enough talent to improve on its 2-8-1 finish last season, but the Demon Deacons will get a good run from '89 ACC doormat **North Carolina**. After finishing 1-10 last season, Tar Heel head coach Mack Brown shocked everyone this winter by hauling in one of the nation's best recruiting classes.

ALL-ACC TEAM

OFFENSE: QB Shawn Moore, Sr., Virginia; RB Randy Cuthbert, Jr., Duke; RB Terry Kirby, So., Virginia; WR Herman Moore, Jr., Virginia; WR Barry Johnson, Sr., Maryland; TE Bruce McGonnigal, Sr., Virginia; OT Kevin Donnalley, Sr., North Carolina; OG Rich Pokrant, Sr., N.C. State; C Trevor Ryals, Sr., Virginia; OT Robbie Lingerfelt, Sr., Wake Forest; OT Stacy Long, Sr., Clemson; PK Chris Gardocki, Jr., Clemson. **DEFENSE:** DL Chris Slade, So., Virginia; DL Vance Hammond, Sr., Clemson; DL Chester McGlockton, So., Clemson; LB Levon Kirkland, Jr., Clemson; LB Dwight Hollier, Jr., North Carolina; LB Doug Brewster, Sr., Clemson; LB Jerrelle Williams, Jr., Georgia Tech; DB Keith McMeans, Sr., Virginia; DB Jesse Campbell, Jr., N.C. State; DB Lamont Scales, So., Wake Forest; DB Ken Swilling, Jr., Georgia Tech; P Scott McAlister, Jr., North Carolina.

| IN THE '80s | FIRST-ROUND NFL DRAFT PICKS | INTER- CONFERENCE WINS* | BOWL APPEARANCES | BOWL RECORD | ALL- AMERICANS | TOP-20 FINISHES |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| ACC | 20 | .431 90-120-7 | 24 | .583 14-10 | 21 | 17 |

*VS DIVISION I-A TEAMS ONLY

Ty Detmer's numbers held their own against those of Houston Heisman Trophy winner Andre Ware. The BYU quarterback led the nation in passing efficiency, completing 64 percent of his passes for 4,560 yards and 32 touchdowns. Detmer is a leading candidate for the Heisman this season, but he uses history as ammunition against those who would cast him in the unenviable role of media favorite.

Detmer's main concern during the winter was putting some meat on his bones. At 6-foot, 175 pounds, ideal size is about the only prerequisite for an NFL quarterback that Detmer lacks. In his favor is an uncanny ability to read defenses, pick up the blitz and find the open receiver.

"He has a great feel for the field and was not confused at anything we threw at him," said Penn State coach Joe Paterno after Detmer riddled his Nittany Lion defense for 576 yards in last year's Holiday Bowl. "We threw a lot of things at Detmer that a lot of good quarterbacks... were confused with. He wasn't."

Detmer is by far the best quarterback in the WAC this season, but as always, there are passers aplenty. If it's an aerial assault you're looking for, you wouldn't do bad catching a game at **San Diego State**, where Dan McGwire passed for 3,651 yards and 16 TDs in 1989. Or maybe **New Mexico**, if the loss of all-WAC receiver Terance Mathis doesn't hurt the performance of quarterback Jeremy Leach, who racked up 3,573 passing yards last season. And while the prolific Scott Mitchell left school early for a shot at the NFL, **Utah** is high on Mitchell's replacement, Mike Richmond, who had a combined 724 yards and eight TDs in his two late-season starts.

Even **Hawaii**, known for its strong running game, features an excellent quarterback in senior Garrett Gabri-

WESTERN ATHLETIC

THE WORST AND BEST



Ty Detmer, the latest in the long line of BYU bombers, led the nation in passing efficiency last year and completed 64 percent of his passes for 4,560 yards.

el. The Rainbow Warriors broke out in '89 for their first bowl appearance (a 31-13 loss to Michigan State in the Aloha Bowl).

Earle Bruce guided **Colorado State** to a 5-5-1 mark in '89, the first .500 season for the Rams since 1986. His second season could

9

bring the Rams their first bowl appearance. What Bruce is doing for Colorado State, Paul Roach did for **Wyoming** three seasons ago. The Cowboys are looking to rebound from a subpar '89 season that followed two straight WAC titles. They've got talent, but

this conference is getting better.

Texas-El Paso and **Air Force** are the exceptions. UTEP was the only WAC team to average less than 20 points a game last year, while allowing 302 points in the conference. The Falcons must go without quarterback Dee Dowis, as well as several other important starters who have graduated from last year's Freedom Bowl squad.

It is with great trepidation that we catalog the WAC as only the ninth-best conference in college football. In a sense, it is the best. True, the WAC lags behind the pack in virtually every category, and only BYU gets serious respect from the big boys. But for sheer excitement, the WAC attack is where it's at. With BYU leading the way, a WAC team has finished either first or second nationally in passing offense in 15 of the last 17 years.

Born in 1962, the WAC is a baby among Division I-A conferences and clearly is on the rise. League attendance increased more than 30 percent through the '80s while the WAC produced 21 bowl teams—compared with 15 between 1962 and 1979.★

ALL-WAC TEAM

OFFENSE: QB Ty Detmer, Jr., BYU; RB Jamal Farmer, So., Hawaii; RB Tony Alford, Sr., Colorado St.; WR Reggie Barrett, Sr., UTEP; WR Andy Boyce, Sr., BYU; TE Chris Smith, Sr., BYU; OT Neal Fort, Sr., BYU; OG John Laurita, Sr., Colorado St.; C Kurt Jensen, Sr., New Mexico; OG Tyrone Fittie, Sr., Wyoming; OT Mike Keim, Sr., BYU; PK Jason Elam, Jr., Hawaii. **DEFENSE:** DL Mitch Donahue, Sr., Wyoming; DL Eric Schaller, Sr., Colorado St.; DL John Bell, Sr., New Mexico; LB Mark Odom, Sr., Hawaii; LB Rocky Biegel, Jr., BYU; LB Nate Morris, Sr., New Mexico; LB J.T. Tokish, Sr., Air Force; DB Brian Mitchell, Sr., BYU; DB Selwyn Jones, Jr., Colorado St.; DB Paul Wallace, So., Wyoming; DB Eric Faison, Sr., Air Force; P Tim Luke, Sr., Colorado St.

| IN THE '80s | FIRST-ROUND NFL DRAFT PICKS | INTER-CONFERENCE RECORD* | BOWL APPEARANCES | BOWL RECORD | ALL-AMERICANS | TOP-20 FINISHES |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
| WAC | 7 | .389 61-96-1 | 21 | .429 9-12 | 20 | 7 |

*VS DIVISION I-A TEAMS ONLY



THE ART OF THE HOOK

One of the most controversial managerial moves in baseball history occurred 20 years ago when Preston Gomez, manager of the last-place San Diego Padres, pinch hit for starter Clay Kirby in the bottom of the eighth inning in a 1-0 game. A reasonable decision, you say? Yes, except for one thing.

Kirby was working on a no-hitter.

Perhaps Gomez can be forgiven for placing a victory ahead of drama, even if the San Diego fans were desperate for something to cheer about in those nascent days of Padres history. But the sheer unpopularity of the move is indicative of the most debated element of baseball strategy—when to go to the bullpen.

Sit in the stands or gather around a televised game at a bar, and one thing is clear: The fans always know when a pitcher should or should not be pulled. The manager is always wrong.

In Chicago, for example, fans are still miffed over Jim Frey's decision to stick with a tiring Rick Sutcliffe in the deciding game of the 1984 National League Championship Series against the Padres. Ask any Angels fan about Gene Mauch, Mike Witt, Donnie Moore and Dave Henderson... and stand back. It's second-guessers' heaven, this business of pitching staff management.

And it's becoming more so all the time. Last season, only 483 complete games were thrown in the major leagues, fewest in modern history. The emergence of the high-salaried closer has almost guaranteed that a starter will be pulled at some point in most games. The question that launches a thousand arguments is *when*.

Some managers try to make a science out of an abstract art. They'll chart appearances, times up in the bullpen and pitches thrown. Texas Rangers pitching coach Tom House has worked out a complicated biomechanical formula that takes each pitcher's mechanics and fitness into account to compute the number of pitches each can throw in a given week.

Others, such as the Cubs' Don Zimmer, rely on intuition, which is really an unarticulated consideration of the same factors. "Most of it's a gut feeling," Zimmer says, adding that the statistic of times up in the pen only became significant when disgruntled relievers, claiming appearances were deceiving, began using it in arbitration.

Either way, managers, to a man, insist they

EVERY
FAN
KNOWS
WHEN A
PITCHER
SHOULD
BE
PULLED.
BUT DO
MAN-
AGERS?
By Peter
Korn

Charts, computers and biomechanical formulas lead to only one theory. As Cubs manager Don Zimmer says, "Most of it's a gut feeling."

know when a pitcher is tiring. Chuck Tanner, who managed several teams, likes to watch the pitching arm, looking for a pitcher to "lift it up like it's a little tight." Says Tanner, "They shake their hand like they have to get the blood back in their fingers."

Other clues managers consider signs of tiring include shaking off many of the catcher's signs, asking for new balls more frequently and unnecessary throws to first base. California Angels manager Doug Rader focuses on pitch selection—"what pitches they want to use in crucial situations."

So if spotting fatigue is a tangible factor, just what is the gray area that makes the pull-or-not-to-pull decision difficult? One word keeps coming up: psyche.

Brewers manager Tom Trebelhorn says the greatest change in managing over the years is a result of increasingly fragile pitching egos. Much of what goes into his decisions concerns the emotional status of the pitcher about to be pulled.

When yanking a rotation starter, Trebelhorn says a manager must think long-term. "Emotionally, it's always tough because they're pumped and ready to go, and they don't want to come out of there," he says. "They're your horses; they're going to have to fill 225, 250 innings."

If a pitcher is throwing the ball over the plate and getting hit, the decision is clear-cut. It's the nibblers who drive managers crazy—not just because of how they throw, but because of the indecision they breed. The manager is never sure if a slightly wild pitcher is going to settle down, given one more inning.

The pitcher who is hit hard is also the easiest pull from an emotional standpoint. "Sometimes," says Trebelhorn, "they're not as much a problem as the guy who pitches so-so, is on the fence three or four innings, then comes out after battling through six or seven and ends up with a no decision."

"If he gets hammered, he's got time to sit back, look around and think, 'Gol dang, I'm going to get them [next time].'" The other way, they come out, and they cry for three days. Then, bang, they're out there again, and they're in a bad frame of mind.

Says Trebelhorn: "Today's major-league base-

ball player—I mean the young fellows—let things bother them that shouldn't bother them."

Pulling a pitcher during the game usually means there will be a locker-room conversation later. "If a guy has kind of a tough inning and doesn't pitch real well," says Trebelhorn, "in the course of the inning, you'd better find some reinforcing things, because when he comes off, he is going to be thinking about all the bad things that happened."

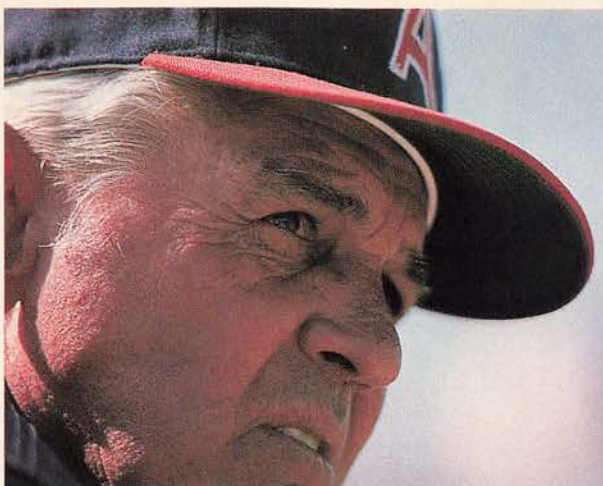
The psyche school of pitcher pulling holds that the key to determining when a pitcher is running on empty is not physical fatigue but emotional exhaustion.

"I want the best guy out there to give us the best opportunity," says Trebelhorn, "not only for this game, but for the next game and the game after that. A guy might be pitching OK, but he's fought out of the third, he's fought out of the fourth, out of the fifth. Now you're in the sixth, he's still pitching fair, but how long can you fight an uphill battle and then have good stuff your next time out? You can't face stress after stress after stress and fly like that. They don't do it anymore."

They once did. Stan Bahnsen, Sammy Ellis and Curt Simmons were noted for their ability to pitch out of trouble. Bahnsen sometimes didn't look involved until he'd allowed a couple of base runners in an inning. Pitchers such as that can make a manager scratch his head in indecision. But ask any big-league skipper if he's ever known a pitcher who could consistently fool him or who could talk him out of a pull, and the answer is always "not for long."

But modern-day pitchers do have their acting ability. "You don't know what's really in there," Trebelhorn says, referring to that thought holder above the shoulders. "I've taken guys out when in my heart I know they *want* to come out. But they're giving every indication it's a macho thing."

The days of the inquiring manager trudging out to the mound to "discuss" matters with his pitcher are over. Most modern managers call for a reliever before reaching the mound. No-man's land



Gene Mauch, long considered a superior manager, has been the architect of some of the most famous—and disastrous—pulls and non-pulls.

seems to start in fair territory; most say they won't cross the line without having made their signal to the bullpen.

Trebelhorn says he won't provide the pitcher a chance to talk him out of his decision. He will, however, go to the mound intending to calm a pitcher and end up pulling him.

"I'll go to the mound on occasion and

want to pitch him.' But I go out and start talking to him and, man, there's nobody home. That's part of your seat-of-the-pants judgment. There's no statistic for that one."

Pitchers aren't the only ones with feelings, Rader insists. "A lot of times, you want to keep a guy in a save situation because you know it's important to him," he says. "Or try to get a starting pitcher five innings if we're ahead. The temptation is to manage with your heart instead of your head."

"The other hardest part is to absolutely understand how much of a workload your bullpen

can tolerate. People wonder why the same guys aren't out there day in and day out, especially after they've been effective for a couple days in a row. Basically, you just can't afford to abuse these people ever. And it's a very difficult situation when the game is on the line to know you can't put in the guy who everybody knows should be in there. You take a short-term gain and a long-term loss every time."

Trebelhorn agrees with Rader about that and says the greatest lesson he's learned playing managerial chess is a simple one: Don't have a preconceived notion. "Don't fear putting anybody in," he says. "The guy who you think has the least chance has been the guy who goes in and does the best job."

Last season, Whitey Herzog wore out the path between the dugout and the mound, making a league-high 358 pitching changes and allowing his relief pitchers to face an average of only 5.1 batters. The Padres' Jack McKeon, on the other hand, made only 245 changes and allowed his relief pitchers an average of seven batters each. But McKeon had Cy Young

Award winner Mark Davis in his bullpen, and neither right-handed nor left-handed batters hit as much as .240 against Davis.

Chuck Tanner doesn't believe top relievers tire from too many appearances as long as their innings are kept down. He managed Terry Forster and Goose Gossage at ages 19 and 20, respectively, and later Kent Tekulve and Rollie Fingers, both experienced veterans. Tanner says he was willing to call on any of them



When you have a Mark Davis in the pen, as the Padres did last year and the Royals do now, late-inning pitching decisions get easier.

pull then," he says. "If I do that, it's because I didn't get the right answer out there. I could be on the fence. I could be saying, 'I'm going to give him this son-of-a-gun, but I'm going to tell him *how* I

PULLS AND NON-PULLS: THE CLASSICS

Poor Gene Mauch.

One time, he doesn't go by the book and he loses. The next time, he goes by the book—and he loses.

When it comes to classic managerial decisions of yanking—or not yanking—pitchers in pressure postseason situations, there are no better illustrations than the ones involving Mauch, the most knowledgeable manager who never won a pennant.

CLASSIC NON-PULL NO. 1

It's the 1982 American League Championship Series. Mauch's California Angels vs. the Milwaukee Brewers. County Stadium, Milwaukee. Series tied at two games apiece. Seventh inning of the fifth and deciding game. Angels lead, 3-2. Bases loaded for the Brewers. Two outs.

Luis Sanchez, an inconsistent right-handed reliever, is on the mound for California. Strolling to the plate is left-handed-hitting Cecil Cooper, the Brewers' MVP-caliber first baseman who struck out in his two preceding at-bats and is two for 19 in the series for a disconcerting .105 average. Warming up in the Angels' bullpen is left-hander Andy Hassler.

What should Mauch do? Summon Hassler to create a lefty vs. lefty confrontation? Or stick with Sanchez?

He stays with Sanchez.

Disaster strikes. That, for Mauch, isn't unusual. After all, Mauch was the manager of the 1964 Philadelphia Phillies, who had a 6½-game lead with 12 games to play and managed to finish second. Moreover, Mauch has been second-guessed throughout the '82 ALCS for pitching Tommy John and Bruce Kison on three days' rest, thus bypassing 13-game winner Ken Forsch. That reminds a lot of people of '64, when Mauch pulled a similar *faux pas*, using aces Jim Bunning and Chris Short on three days' rest the final week of the season.

As it turns out, the Sanchez-Cooper duel decides the AL flag. Cooper lines a 1-1 fast-ball into left field, driving in the tying and eventual winning run and enabling the Brewers to become the first team in championship series history to overcome a two-game deficit.

The very next game the Angels play—Opening Day '83—is against Milwaukee. Guess what situation arises? Cooper comes up late in the game with runners on base and the Angels clinging to a slim lead. Only this time, Mauch isn't calling the shots. It's John McNamara, who was hired when Mauch resigned following the bitter playoff defeat. Incredibly, McNamara summons Hassler—not Sanchez—to replace Kison, who, coincidentally, was the starting pitcher in Game 5 of the '82 playoffs. And what should Hassler do? Why he strikes out Cooper, ultimately preserving a 3-2 victory and further torturing the tormented ex-Angels manager.

Poor Gene Mauch.

CLASSIC PULL NO. 1:

The 1986 ALCS. Angels vs. Boston Red Sox. Angels lead the best-of-seven series, 3-1. They lead Game 5 in the ninth inning, 5-2. Three more outs and the Angels—and Mauch, back as Angels manager—will have exorcised the demons that have deprived them of a World Series appearance for a quarter-century.

On the mound for the Angels is their ace, Mike Witt. He's pitched a masterful game but is tiring, as evidenced by Bill Buckner's lead-off single and Don Baylor's one-out homer that closed the deficit to 5-4.

Decision time for Mauch. Should he yank the right-handed Witt and bring in right-handed ace closer Donnie Moore, who's warming up in the bullpen with veteran lefty Gary Lucas? Right-handed slugger Dwight Evans is due up with left-handed Rich Gedman to follow. Evans is hitless. Gedman has ripped Witt all day long, going 3 for 3, with a homer and double.

Mauch sticks with Witt, who overpowers Evans, inducing him to pop up weakly, putting the Angels, Mauch and a frenzied capacity crowd of 64,223 one out away from ecstasy.

With Gedman coming up, Mauch makes his move. He goes for Lucas. Familiar disaster strikes.

From a strategic standpoint, Mauch's

move is brilliant. Lucas struck out Gedman the night before in the Angels' victory and had fanned Gedman the only other time he had faced him during the season.

On the other hand, Witt has just overpowered one of the league's best hitters. The way his adrenaline is pumping, and the way the stadium is rattling, Witt could probably nail down the pennant on pure emotion.

As it turns out, Lucas, who hadn't hit a batter in a span of 350 hitters, plucks Gedman with his first—and only—pitch, setting in motion one of the most memorable flops (or comebacks, depending on your point of view) in history. Lucas is yanked with right-hander Dave Henderson coming up. Moore is brought in, and, well, you know what happens: Henderson hits a 2-2 fork-

ball out of the park to give Boston a 6-5 lead; the Angels tie it in the bottom of the ninth; the Red Sox win it in the 11th on Henderson's sacrifice fly and go on to win the next two games to win the series.

CLASSIC PULL NO. 2

The 1981 World Series. New York Yankees vs. Los Angeles Dodgers. Game 6, Dodgers up 3 games to 2. Score tied, 1-1. Bottom of the fourth at Yankee Stadium. Runners on first and second, two outs and pitcher Tommy John scheduled to bat.

George Steinbrenner—who had .360 World Series hitter Reggie Jackson benched for the first three games of the series—orders manager Bob Lemon to yank John, the winning pitcher in Game 2, for pinch hitter Bobby Murcer.

(Remember the TV cameras panning to John, who was leaning against the dugout wall, wearing a dumbfounded expression, shaking his head and mumbling to himself?) Murcer flies out. End of inning.

End of series too.

George Frazier, the losing pitcher in games 3 and 4, takes over for John and gives up three runs in the fifth, making it easy for the Dodgers to coast to the championship.

CLASSIC PULL NO. 3:

The 1975 World Series. Cincinnati Reds vs. the Red Sox. Game 7, bottom of the eighth at Fenway Park.

Red Sox manager Darrell Johnson is faced with a critical decision: Should he lift veteran right-handed reliever Jim Willoughby, who is scheduled to bat with two outs and no one on base and the top of the order to follow? Or should he let Willoughby hit and then pitch the ninth? He has already pitched 1½ scoreless innings. However, the first two scheduled hitters for the Reds in the

ninth are lefties Ken Griffey and Cesar Geronimo. Johnson has already used one of his left-handed pitchers: Roger Moret. He has one southpaw left—rookie Jim Burton.

Johnson makes his move: He yanks Willoughby, sending up (foreshadowing here) Cecil Cooper. Cooper is 1 for 18 in the series. He promptly fouls out.

To complete his move, Johnson summons the rookie—Burton—to pitch the ninth.

Bad move.

The nervous Burton walks Griffey, triggering the Reds' series-winning rally. Two outs later, Burton walks Pete Rose, then yields a looping single to left-handed hitter Joe Morgan. The hit delivers Griffey with the winning run and the Reds their first World Series title in 35 years.

—Rick Weinberg



Tommy John was rolling along for the Yankees when he was pulled early for a pinch hitter in the sixth and final game of the 1981 World Series. Result: a world championship for Los Angeles.

MITCHELL B. REBEL/SPORTSCHROME

nearly every day. His philosophy—"If your arm is healthy, the more you throw, the stronger you get"—comes straight from Johnny Sain, his long-time pitching coach.

And he put it to work. In 1979, Tanner stretched conventional concepts about how many appearances pitchers could handle by leading the Pirates to a World Series championship with Tekulve, Enrique Romo and Grant Jackson finishing one, two, three in the NL in relief appearances. The Pirates' top starter was John Candelaria, who was 14-9.

Managers may differ on the outside limits of a reliever's durability, but, inevitably, the use of the bullpen comes down to the arms out there.

"Two good relievers will make you a good manager," says Jack McKeon.

But sometimes a good manager can make a good reliever. He does it by discovering the situations in which a reliever excels and by using him mostly in those particular situations. For example, Mark Davis had 44 saves last season, but he entered with a one-run lead in only 18 games. Whitey Herzog somehow got Frank DiPino to 9-0 last season by using him in the right situations. DiPino finished without a save.

"Some guys are set-up men," says Tanner. "But they can't get the last out."

That's useful, though. With starters leaving earlier, and stoppers more specialized, middle-relief and set-up men—those often statisticless players—are more important these days. So convincing the middle man he's as important as the stopper is one of the critical elements of bullpen management. What a manager can do for middle relievers is make sure they don't languish, that they get consistent work.

Also, middle relievers and set-up men need to be used in a consistent manner. The most common complaint heard from slumping relievers is "I don't know my role." Consistency helps them deal with the stress of pressure situations by taking away the uncertainty of when they can expect to feel the stress.

On Trebelhorn's Brewers, the roles are well-defined. Dan Plesac is the closer and Chuck Crim the set-up man. But Trebelhorn says he sometimes treated Crim as a second closer and got in trouble for it. The reason goes to the heart of bullpen strategy.

Most games present one key inning, and it's usually *not* the ninth. It may come in the seventh or the fifth or the third—whenever one team has an opportunity to blow the game open. Since the

closer's role has become so specialized that he can't be used before the eighth, Crim's value is pitching all the way up to the eighth from the middle innings. But as a result, Trebelhorn says Crim became the overused pitcher on the Brewers last year, not Plesac. Crim made 76 appear-



Milwaukee's Dan Plesac is an ace closer who benefits from the set-up work of Chuck Crim.

ances and pitched 117½ innings. Plesac, the supposed ace with 33 saves, appeared 52 times for 61½ innings.

Depth, then, is critical. "The only way you win the bundle is 10 people contributing," Tanner says. "If the sixth, seventh and eighth pitchers can't get you down there to the big guy, then you can't win."

The Padres' Craig Lefferts, who has played just about every bullpen role, says the reliever's most hated situation is being summoned without enough time to warm up. Of course, the *second* worse situation, Lefferts adds, is being asked to warm up and then not being used. Somewhere between those two dreaded circumstances operates the perfect manager.

Which brings us to the wilder side of bullpen management. Sure, relief roles have become more specialized, but the evolution of bullpen strategy has been relatively slow and conservative. What about the radical ideas nobody has had the courage to enact?

"If I had the guts to try it," says Tanner, "I would like to take nine pitchers and pitch three every day. Three, three and three, with two days rest." Tanner adds that he'd keep two extra pitchers to relieve an ineffective starter, but only through the assigned three-inning segment.

The potential benefits of this plan are enormous. Every day, teams would face a switch from a right-handed to a left-handed pitcher, then back again to a right-hander each time through the line-

up. Not only does it keep the hitters from a groove, but it negates any platoon match-up. Each time up, barring a hit barrage, a hitter would be faced with a new look. And any hitter will tell you the first time up against a pitcher is the most difficult.

Tired arms would never occur with pitchers going no more than three innings every third day. And the pitchers might stay sharper, pitching that frequently.

So why hasn't it been done? Tanner's first reason is rhetorical: "Who's going to get the victory? These guys are playing for half a million dollars." But, in fact, during the strike year of 1981, Tanner tried to go with the plan. He gathered his pitching staff in the clubhouse and explained it.

Whereupon Jim Bibby dismantled it by insisting that he be the one to pitch the fourth-fifth-sixth inning segment—when W's are accrued.

Tanner insists if he is successful in his attempts to attain ownership of a ball club, he's going to start off some of the minor-league clubs with the 3-3-3 plan as an experiment. But he recognizes that full-scale implementation could lead to open season on managers, which is the real reason the plan hasn't seen the light of day.

Sain suggests another way to look at a bullpen. Sain, something of a Socrates among pitching coaches, asks three questions. Who are your best pitchers? Answer: starters. Which innings are usually the most important? Answer: the last two. How often are your starters pitching the last two innings these days? Answer: not often. Why not, Sain asks, designate three second-line pitchers to start each game, going only three innings each? Then bring in the real starters for the fourth inning each game, ready to pitch through the ninth.

It won't happen because managers would be too vulnerable. Imagine the repercussions if Clemens pitches six innings of no-hit ball after some would-be reliever got the Red Sox behind 6-0. Or, as Tanner acknowledges in regard to his 3-3-3 plan: "Suppose there are 40,000 people in the stands, and your first pitcher strikes out nine in a row."

Of course, Preston Gomez may not have qualms about pulling him. For those who don't recall, Clay Kirby's no-hitter was lost in the ninth by Jack Baldschun, who allowed a single to Bud Harrelson and two more runs. The Padres lost the game, 3-0, and finished the season in last place, 39 games out. ★

Peter Korn is a free-lance writer from Portland, Oregon.

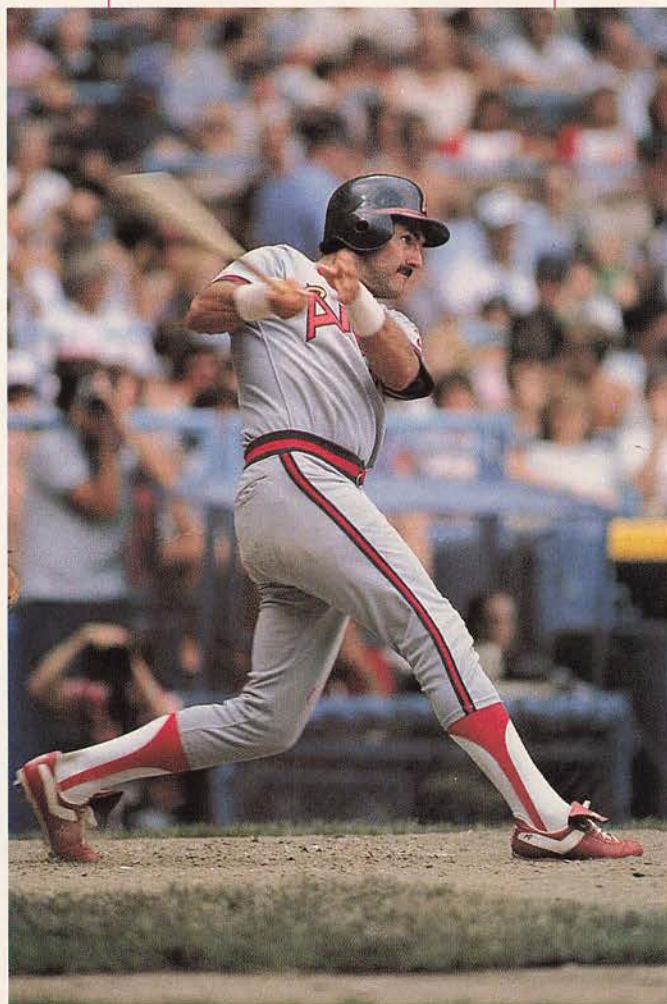
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9-11 correct: Good fan
6-8 correct: Working too hard
3-5 correct: To the showers
0-2 correct: Try knitting

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MITCHELL B. REIBEL/SPORTSCHROME

1 Fred Lynn (pictured) became the first major-leaguer to hit a grand slam in an All-Star Game. Name the unfortunate pitcher who surrendered that dinger.

2 Only one man has the distinction of managing in an All-Star Game in the 1960s, '70s, and '80s. Who is he?

3 Which player has the most doubles in an All-Star Game career?

- A. Dave Winfield
- B. Willie Mays
- C. Stan Musial
- D. Rickey Henderson

4 Match the player with his first NBA team.

- A. Tom Chambers ...1. Chicago Bulls
- B. Reggie Theus2. San Diego Clippers
- C. Robert Parish3. Washington Bullets
- D. Rick Mahorn4. Golden State Warriors

STUMPER
Who is the only Heisman Trophy winner to play on an NCAA team with a losing record?

THIS MONTH'S QUIZ ANSWERS:
1. Allee Hamaker (in the 1983 All-Star Game). 2. Dick Williams. 3. A (Winfield has seven doubles in 12 All-Star games). 4. B. 5. True. 6. D. 7. B. 8. C. 9. A. 10. A-2. B-1. C-4 and D-3. 11. A. 12. Bert Campaneris. 13. A (In 1980, the Orioles finished in second place with 100 wins, while the New York Yankees won the division with 103 wins).

5 Michael Spinks was a middle-weight when he won the gold medal in the 1976 Olympics. True or False?

6 Which quarterback led the AFC in interceptions during the 1989 season?

- A. John Elway
- B. Dave Krieg
- C. Ken O'Brien
- D. Dan Marino

7 Which NFL team had the dubious distinction of surrendering the most points during the 1989 season?

- A. Dallas Cowboys
- B. Atlanta Falcons
- C. Tampa Bay Buccaneers
- D. New York Jets

8 Who was the last catcher to lead the major leagues in triples?

- A. Thurman Munson
- B. Benito Santiago
- C. Tim Lincecum
- D. John Wathan

9 During the 1980s, only one golfer won consecutive British Open titles. Who is he?

- A. Tom Watson
- B. Nick Faldo
- C. Sandy Lyle
- D. Mark Calcavecchia

10 Which country did Argentina defeat to win the World Cup in 1986?

- A. The Netherlands
- B. West Germany
- C. Italy
- D. Czechoslovakia

11 Which player led the major leagues in singles last year?

- A. Steve Sax
- B. Wade Boggs
- C. Kirby Puckett
- D. Tony Gwynn

12 From 1956 through 1964, Luis Aparicio led the American League in stolen bases. Who ended the streak?

13 Since 1969, only one major-league team has won 100 games in a season but did not win its division title. Which team is it?

- A. Baltimore Orioles
- B. New York Yankees
- C. Boston Red Sox
- D. Cincinnati Reds

—William Ladson and Raymond Harper

JULY 1990 STUMPER ANSWER:
Mickey Rivers ("Only one member of the Los Angeles/California Angels has ever led the American League in stolen bases. Who is this lone deer?")

SPORT ODDS

Summertime temperatures in the 90s may mean a day at the beach to some people. But to the rest of us it means only one thing: preseason NFL football. Contrary to popular belief, exhibition football can be a lucrative venture. You just have to ignore the myths that have grown up around it. Those mindless cliches you always hear about the preseason just aren't true.

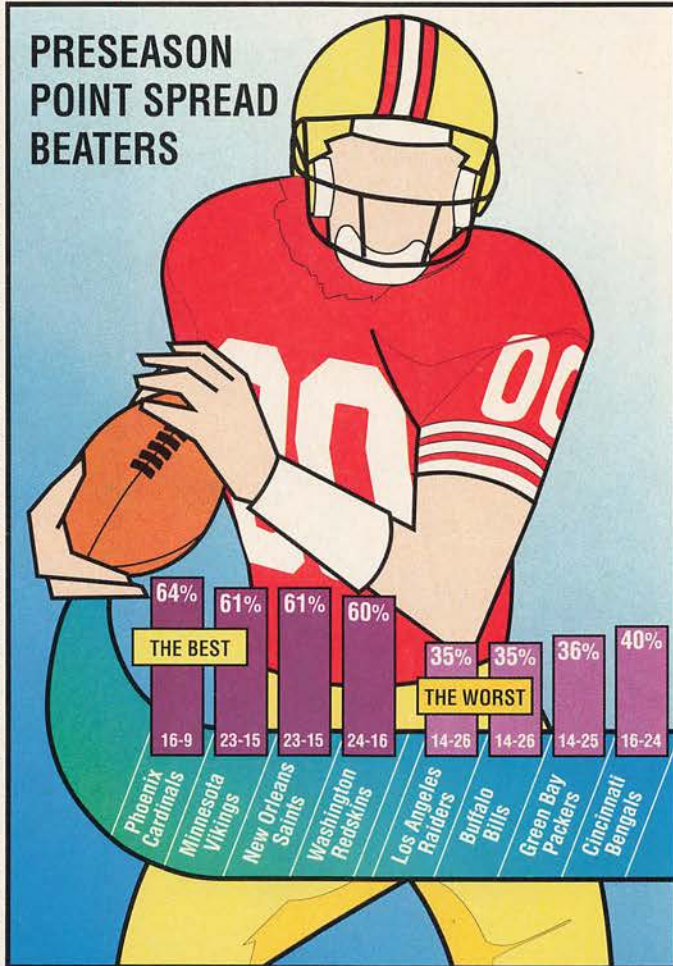
For example, one piece of rhetoric that always seems to be thrown out to the public is "just bet the underdog in the preseason." Fact is, underdogs were 268-251 against the spread in the last 10 exhibition seasons. That doesn't sound too bad, but keeping in mind the 10-percent vig—roughly you pay on all losing bets, you come out behind. If you'd bet \$10 on every dog in that span, you'd have taken in \$2,680 on your winning bets but coughed up \$2,761 on your losers. Net loss: \$81.

Then there's the just-win-baby nonsense which holds that the Raiders, hungry to win even the most meaningless games as part of their tough image, give you an edge at exhibition time. The problem with that theory is that it's not true. You may find it hard to believe, but the Raiders were tied for the worst preseason record of any team in pro football against the points during the 1980s. Make 'em the favorites, and they're really in trouble: a ridiculous 6-16 against the spread.

Mindless cliché No. 3: "Lay the points against the Jets in the preseason." Nice theory if you like losing money. Over the decade, the Jets had the second-best record as preseason underdogs, going 19-9 vs. the point spread.

So let's get beyond the myths and into the real trends. I've studied and digested every preseason game played in the 1980s. Which teams are the preseason point-spread heroes? Which are the dog

PRESEASON POINT SPREAD BEATERS



PRESEASON PROFITS

THE NFL EXHIBITION SEASON HAS ITS

OWN TRENDS

By Danny Sheridan

teams of August? Read on.

NFC EAST

PHOENIX CARDINALS:

They played the preseason for real in St. Louis, and they kept doing it in Phoenix. Against the spread, they had the best winning percentage (64 percent) as an underdog in the '80s.

WASHINGTON REDSKINS:

Here's one of the most successful teams in covering the preseason points. The Skins were 24-16 (60 percent) and even better as a favorite (13-8, 62 percent).

NEW YORK GIANTS:

Another team that plays the preseason games as though they counted (in fact, this entire division does). The Giants were 23-17 vs. the points and 13-7 (65 percent) as an underdog.

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES:

Philly's been a dilly vs. the spread—23-17, same as their rivals, the Giants.

DALLAS COWBOYS:

Right around .500 over the decade, but under Jimmy Johnson last year, the Cowpokes swept August, going 4-0. Of course, then they lost their first six regular-season games.

NFC CENTRAL

CHICAGO BEARS:

Shocker. The Bears play like cubbies against the preseason numbers—17-23 (43 percent) overall and a dismal 8-19 (30 percent) as favorites.

GREEN BAY PACKERS: The pack didn't back their supporters during the decade, going a miserable 14-25 (36 percent) against the spread. They were even worse as exhibition underdogs (8-16, 33 percent).

MINNESOTA VIKINGS: Here's one of the toughest preseason teams, with a 23-15 record vs. the points. And they were the best in the NFL as favorites, going 10-5 (67 percent).

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DETROIT LIONS: Not much roaring here. The Lions were 18-22 vs. the preseason points.

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS: They played well as a favorite and badly as a dog. The Bucs were 11-6 laying the points but only 7-11 taking the spot.

NFC WEST

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS: Surprise! You'd think any time you get points with the Niners, you're in good shape. But San Francisco was only 6-10 as an August dog in their decade. Go figure.

LOS ANGELES RAMS: Not much here—an overall record of 19-22.

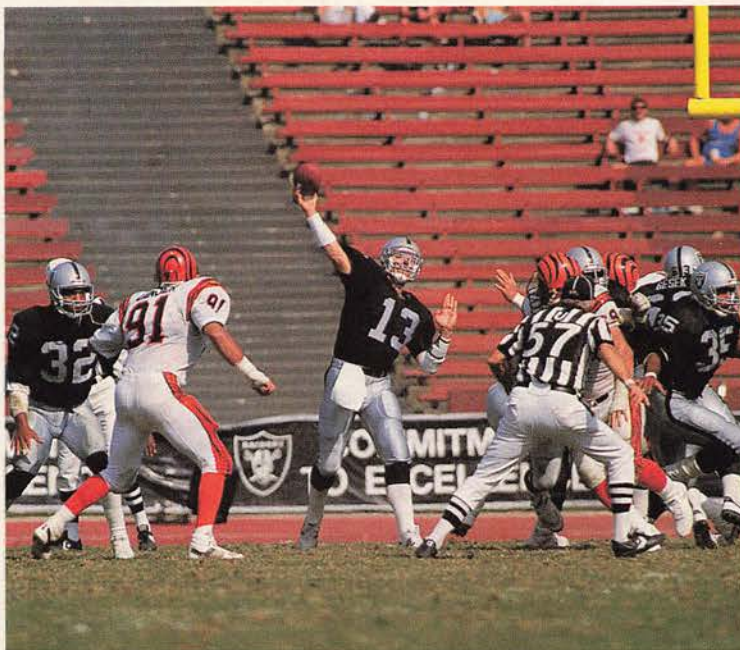
NEW ORLEANS SAINTS: Their 23-15 spread mark during the decade is one of the league's preseason best, an impressive 61 percent. Even more impressive is their sparkling 14-6 (70 percent) record as an underdog.

ATLANTA FALCONS: Everybody expects them to have a losing preseason record, and everybody is right. Atlanta was 18-21 against the spread in the '80s.

AFC EAST

NEW YORK JETS: A delightful dog. Their 19-9 record with the points is good for 68 percent.

MIAMI DOLPHINS: After beating the spread seven out of eight times in the



Forget what you hear: The Raiders are preseason flops, with a 14-26 record against the spread in the last 10 years.

first two years of the decade, the fish (OK, mammals) have been a lackluster 15-18 against the points in the last seven exhibition seasons.

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS: From Baltimore to Indy, the Colts are a .500 team against the preseason spread. But here's a tip: With No. 1 draft pick Jeff George pursuing a starting spot with his million-dollar arm, the Colts could get frisky this exhibition season.

BUFFALO BILLS: These guys backstabbed their backers throughout the last

10 years. Along with the Raiders, they've got the worst record in the NFL (14-26). And they've been horrendous as favorites (4-13). Recently? How about 0-4 vs. the points last preseason?

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS: Not much better than the Bills with their 17-22 spread mark and their miserable 6-12 mark as favorites.

AFC CENTRAL

CINCINNATI BENGALS: Toothless tigers at 16-25. And real pussycats as underdogs (6-14, 30 percent).

PITTSBURGH STEELERS: A steady 21-18 against the number in preseason games. The

Steelers were favorites only 16 times in the '80s, and they won 10 of those games.

HOUSTON OILERS: Only 18-20 over the decade, but they have covered seven of their last nine preseason games. New head coach Jack Pardee should give the Oilmen incentive to keep it up.

CLEVELAND BROWNS: Tough in the preseason. The Brownies were 23-17 against the number in the '80s, and as underdogs, they pounded the points seven out of 12 times.

AFC WEST

LOS ANGELES RAIDERS: That 14-26 record against the spread looks even worse when you find out they won only 13 preseason games in the '80s.

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS: Respectable at 21-18.

DENVER BRONCOS: Forget the Super Bowls and stick with the Broncos in the preseason. Denver was 21-16 overall against the spread and 7-3 as dogs.

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS: The worst doggie team of the decade. You can't get much worse than 2-10. But look for new GM Bobby Beathard to start turning things around.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS: An enigma. They won 63 percent of the time for you as favorites (15-9) and lost 67 percent as underdogs (5-10). ★

PRESEASON TRENDS: THE LAST 10 YEARS

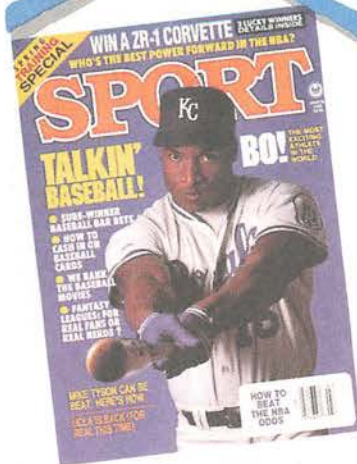
BEST DOGS vs. THE POINT SPREAD Denver Broncos (7-3, 70 percent), New York Jets (19-9, 68 percent)

WORST DOGS vs. THE POINT SPREAD San Diego Chargers (2-10, 17 percent), Cincinnati Bengals (6-14, 30 percent)

BEST FAVORITES vs. THE POINT SPREAD Minnesota Vikings (10-5, 67 percent), Seattle Seahawks (15-9, 63 percent), Pittsburgh Steelers (10-6, 63 percent)

WORST FAVORITES vs. THE POINT SPREAD Buffalo Bills (4-13, 24 percent), Los Angeles Raiders (6-16, 27 percent), Chicago Bears (8-19, 30 percent), Cincinnati Bengals (6-14, 30 percent)

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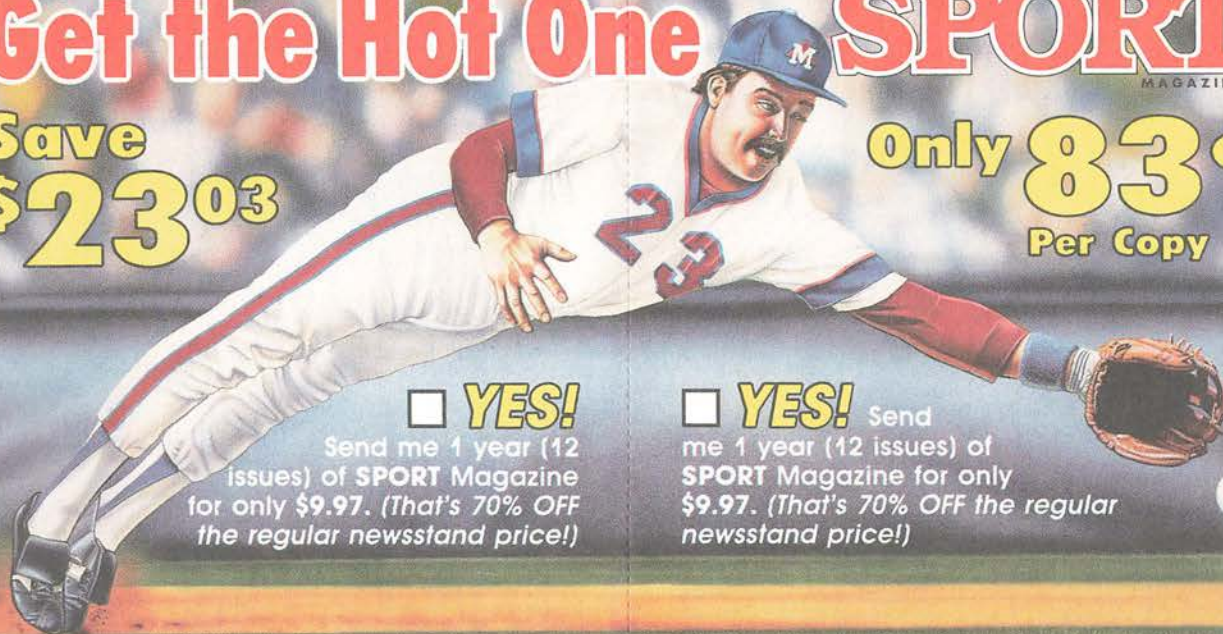
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Illustration by Mike Cressy

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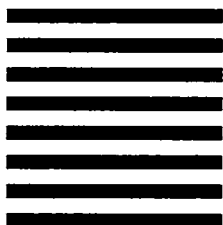
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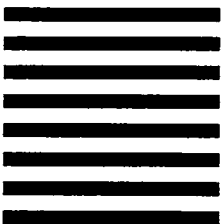
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The 'Photo Shoot' Sweepstakes. The \$7.00/\$1.50 Rebate.

☐ Enter me in the Kirin "Be at the *Sport Magazine* Swimsuit Issue Photo Shoot" Sweepstakes. (No purchase necessary.)

☐ Also send me my rebate of \$7.00 (case) or \$1.50 (six-pack) on Kirin Beer.

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A. REBATE AND AUTOMATIC ENTRY INTO SWEEPSTAKES (where permitted by law)

1. Check the appropriate box for the rebate offer and automatic entry into sweepstakes (where permitted by law).
2. Hand-print all information on entry form.
3. Enclose a UPC symbol from a six-pack for the \$1.50 rebate OR a UPC symbol from a case for the \$7.00 rebate and mail with entry form and a cash register receipt with the price circled to: Kirin Rebate & Sweepstakes, P.O. Box 733, Gibbstown, NJ 08027.
4. Reproduced UPC symbols, receipts or entry forms will not be accepted nor will requests from groups or organizations. Offer is limited to one rebate per household.
5. Offer valid only in USA to residents of legal drinking age. Rebate offer void in AL, AR, HI, IN, ME, MO, NC, OH, OR, TX, RI, UT, WV, PR. Sweepstakes void in TX, OH, MO and PR. Void where prohibited by law. Officers, employees and representatives of Kirin USA, Inc. and Martlet Importing Co., Inc., and Sport Magazine, their affiliates, subsidiaries, agencies, licensed alcoholic beverage retailers and beverage wholesalers, and members of their immediate families are not eligible.
6. Please allow 8 weeks for delivery. Offer ends on 12/31/90 when P.O. Box closes. To be eligible for automatic entry into the sweepstakes, we must receive your envelope by 8/31/90.

B. OFFICIAL SWEEPSTAKES RULES — No Purchase Necessary

1. To enter the sweepstakes only, check the appropriate box and hand-print the information requested on the official entry form. Mail the completed form to Kirin/Sport Magazine Fantasy Sweepstakes, P.O. Box 619, Gibbstown, NJ 08027. All entries must be received by 8/31/90 when the P.O. Box closes. Enter as often as you wish, but mail each entry separately. Reproduced entries of any type will not be accepted. Sponsor is not responsible for late, lost, misdirected or illegible mail or for printing errors in the entry form rules.

2. Winner will be drawn at random on or about 9/4/90 from all eligible entries received by the independent judging organization whose decisions are final. Odds of winning are based on the number of eligible entries received.

3. PRIZE: One Grand Prize Winner will receive a 4 Day/3 Night Trip for 2 to attend the Kirin/Sport Magazine Swimsuit Issue Photo-Shoot (location and dates to be determined). Prize consists of round-trip coach air transportation, 3 nights double accommodations and car rental (approximate retail value \$5,000). If the winner cannot be present on the day of the photo shoot, winner will forfeit tickets to the event (no substitution will be made), however, airline tickets, accommodations and car rental will be made available until 9/30/91. Travel dates are subject to availability. Advance notice of 45 days is required for travel reservations. Prizes are not transferable, assignable or redeemable for cash and no substitutions are allowed except by sponsor due to prize unavailability.

4. Winner will be required to sign an affidavit of eligibility and liability release within 7 days. Travel companion will be required to sign a liability release. In the event of non-compliance within this time period, an alternate winner will be selected. Taxes on all prizes are the responsibility of the winner. Prize will be awarded.

5. Sweepstakes is open to U.S. residents of legal drinking age. Void in TX, OH, MO, PR and where prohibited by law. Officers, employees and representatives of Kirin USA, Inc. and Martlet Importing Co., Inc., and Sport Magazine, their affiliates, subsidiaries, agencies, licensed alcoholic beverage retailers and beverage wholesalers, and members of their immediate families are not eligible.

6. For the name of the winner, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Kirin/Sport Magazine Fantasy Sweepstakes Winner List, P.O. Box 599, Gibbstown, NJ 08027. All requests must be received by 8/31/90 when P.O. Box closes.

Here are 70 more selections to choose from.

Paul Anka—30th Anniversary Collection (Rhino) 405-761

Nuclear Valdez—I Am I (Epic) 405-142

Ernie Isley—High Wire (Elektra) 404-988

Steve Salas Colorcode (Island) 404-970

Killer Dwarfs—Dirty Weapons (Epic) 404-921

Slaughter—Stick It To Ya (Chrysalis) 404-830

Black Sabbath—We Sold Our Soul For Rock 'N' Roll (Warner Bros.) 404-632

Oingo Boingo—Dark At The End Of The Tunnel (MCA) 404-541

John Wesley Harding (Sire/Reprise) 404-509

The Oak Ridge Boys—American Dreams (MCA) 404-434

Eddie Money—Greatest Hits Sound Of Money (Columbia) 403-428

The Fixx—One Thing Leads To Another (MCA) 402-974

Louis Armstrong—The Best Of The Decca Years - The Singer (Decca) 402-941

Livingston Taylor—Life Is Good (Crat) 402-669

Club Nouveau—Under A Nouveau Groove (Warner Bros.) 402-479

Heavy D & The Boyz—Big Tyme (MCA) 383-703

Neneh Cherry—Raw Like Sushi (Virgin) 382-994

The Cult—Sonic Temple (Sire/Reprise) 381-798

Wang Chung—The Warmer Side Of Cool (Geffen) 381-764

Stray Cats—Blast Off! (EMI) 381-442

Tone-Loc—Loc'd After Dark (Delicious Vinyl) 379-875

Tommy Page—Paintings In My Mind (Sire/Warner Bros.) 405-399

Evelyn "Champagne" King—The Girl Next Door (EMI) 402-032

Highwayman 2—Waylon Jennings, Willie Nelson, Kris Kristofferson, Johnny Cash, Various Artists (Columbia) 401-976

Loverboy—Big Ones (Columbia) 401-661

Shotgun Messiah (Relativity) 401-240

Joan Baez—Speaking Of Dreams (Gold Castle) 401-216

Do The Right Thing—Original Soundtrack Featuring: Branford Marsalis (Columbia) 401-117

Reba McEntire—Live (MCA) 400-739

Joe Strummer—Earthquake Weather (Epic) 400-010

The Isley Brothers—Spend The Night (Warner Bros.) 389-148

Barry White—The Man Is Back! (A&M) 388-843

F Machine—Here Comes The 21st Century (Reprise) 386-128

Bee Gees—One (Warner Bros.) 386-060

Eric Marienthal—Round Trip (GRP) 385-914

Diana Ross—Working Overtime (Motown) 383-984

Diana Ross—All The Great Love Songs (Motown) 338-913

Barry Manilow—Greatest Hits (Arista) 288-670

Liza Minnelli—Results (Epic) 382-333

L.L. Cool J—Walking With A Panther (Def Jam / Columbia) 381-988

Branford Marsalis—Trio Jeepy (Columbia) 381-830

Expose—What You Don't Know (Arista) 381-715

Steve Reich: Different Trains - Kronos Quartet / Electric Counterpoint - Pat Metheny(Nonesuch) 380-071

The Chick Corea Akoustic Band (GRP) 379-691

House Party—Original Soundtrack (Motown) 405-878

Kiri Te Kanawa—Verdi & Puccini Arias (CBS Master) 343-269

U2—Rattle And Hum (Island) 374-017

Luciano Pavarotti—Pavarotti In Concert (CBS Master) 373-548

Michel Camilo (Portrait) 379-107

Lyle Lovett And His Large Band (MCA) 378-935

Portrait Of Vladimir Horowitz—Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin, etc. (CBS Master) 378-604

Bob Dylan & Grateful Dead (Columbia) 378-117

Cyndi Lauper—A Night To Remember (Epic) 377-887

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Guns N' Roses—GN'R Lies (Geffen) 376-087

Fleetwood Mac—Greatest Hits (Warner Bros.) 375-782

Journey's Greatest Hits (Columbia) 375-279

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles—Original Soundtrack (SBK) 406-900

Patti Austin—Love Is Gonna Getcha (GRP) 405-951

Lambada—Various Artists (Epic) 405-357

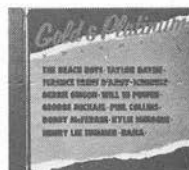
Randy Brecker—Toe To Toe (MCA) 406-355

Tashan—On The Horizon (Columbia) 406-256

John Scofield—Time On My Hands (Blue Note) 405-928



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Beaches—Original Soundtrack (Atlantic) 379-669

k.d. lang And The Reclines—Absolute Torch & Twang (Sire) 381-624

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Shark Island—Law Of The Order (Epic) 384-180

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Please accept my application under the terms outlined in this advertisement. I agree to buy 6 more selections (at regular Club prices) in the next 3 years—and may cancel my membership anytime after doing so.

MY MAIN MUSICAL INTEREST IS (CHECK ONE): (But I am always free to choose from any category)

- ☐ **Hard Rock** ☐ **Soft Rock** ☐ **Modern Rock** ☐ **Light Sounds** ☐ **Heavy Metal** ☐ **Black Music** ☐ **Easy Listening**
 Aerosmith, Fleetwood Mac, Sinead O'Connor, Barry Manilow, Mötley Crüe, Bell Biv DeVoe, Ray Conniff, Robert Plant, Michael Bolton, Depeche Mode, Carly Simon, Slaughter, Luther Vandross, Johnny Mathis

- ☐ **Country**
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(Please Print)

First Name

Initial

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Note: we reserve the right to reject any application or cancel any membership. Offers not available in APQ, FPQ, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico. Write for details of alternative offer. Canadian residents serviced from Toronto. Applicable sales tax added to all orders.

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- ☐ **Country**
☐ **Jazz**
☐ **Classical**

☐ **Mr.**
☐ **Mrs.**
☐ **Miss**

(Please Print)

First Name

Initial

Last Name

Address _____ **Apt.** _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

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